



Rescue personnel aid injured people near the finish line of the 2013 Boston Marathon following explosions in Boston, Monday, April 15, 2013. Two explosions shattered the euphoria of the Boston Marathon finish line on Monday, sending authorities out on the course to carry off the injured while the stragglers were rerouted away from the smoking site of the blasts.

Associated Press

3 killed as 2 bombs explode at Boston Marathon

JIMMY GOLEN
Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Two bombs exploded in the crowded streets near the finish line of the Boston Marathon on Monday, killing at least three people and injuring more than 140 in a bloody scene of shattered glass and severed limbs that raised alarms that terrorists might have struck again in the U.S.

A White House official speaking on condition of anonymity because the investigation was still unfolding said the attack was being treated as an act of

terrorism.

President Barack Obama, speaking from the White House late Monday, pointedly avoided using the words "terror" or "terrorism," saying officials "still do not know who did this or why." However, a White House official later said the explosions at one of the world's oldest and most prestigious race was being treated as terrorism.

"We will find out who did this. We'll find out why they did this," Obama said in his brief statement. "Any responsible individuals, any responsible groups, will feel

the full weight of justice."

As the FBI took charge of the investigation, authorities shed no light on a motive or who may have carried out the bombings, and police said they had no suspects in custody. Officials in Washington said there was no immediate claim of responsibility.

WBZ-TV reported late Monday that law enforcement officers were searching an apartment in the Boston suburb of Revere. Massachusetts State Police confirmed that a search warrant related to the investigation into the explosions

was served Monday night in Revere but provided no further details.

As many as two unexploded bombs were also found near the end of the 26.2-mile (42-kilometer) course as part of what appeared to be a well-coordinated attack, but they were safely disarmed, according to a senior U.S. intelligence official, who also spoke on condition of anonymity because of the continuing investigation. The fiery twin blasts took place almost simultaneously and about 100 yards (meters) apart, knocking spectators

and at least one runner off their feet, shattering windows and sending dense plumes of smoke rising over the street and through the fluttering national flags lining the course. When the second bomb went off, the spectators' cheers turned to screams. As sirens blared, emergency workers and National Guardsmen assigned to the race for crowd control began climbing over and tearing down temporary fences to get to the blast site.

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Patenting genes: Justices tackle big health issue

JESSE J. HOLLAND

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court seemed worried Monday about the idea of companies patenting human genes in a case that could profoundly reshape the multibillion-dollar biomedical industry and U.S. research in the fight against diseases like breast and ovarian cancer.

Justices argued not only about snipping DNA strands but also about chewing the leaves of Amazonian jungle plants, the shaping of baseball bats and the ingredients of chocolate chip cookies as they tried to figure out whether companies can gain government protection — and profits — for their work with human genes.

The ability to claim control of genetic information found inside every American could hang on the nine justices' decision later this summer, a ruling that could affect the intersection of science and the law for years to come.

"The issue here is a very difficult one," Justice Samuel Alito said.

Abstract ideas, natural phenomena and laws of nature cannot be awarded patents, the legal protection that gives inventors the right to prevent others from making, using or selling a novel device, process or application. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has been awarding patents on human genes for almost 30 years, but opponents of Myriad Genetics Inc.'s patents on two genes linked to an increased risk of breast and ovarian cancer say such protection should not be given to something that can be found inside the human body.

"Finding a new use for a product of nature, if you don't change the product of nature, is not patentable," said lawyer Christopher Hansen, arguing against the patents. "If I find a new way of taking gold and making earrings out of it, that doesn't entitle me to a patent on gold.

If I find a new way of using lead, it doesn't entitle me to a patent on lead."

Several organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union, the Association for Molecular Pathology, a number of doctors

with much greater risks of breast and ovarian cancer. Women with a faulty gene have a three to seven times greater risk of developing breast cancer and also a higher risk of ovarian cancer.

nedy said wasn't sufficient. "I don't think we can decide the case on, 'Don't worry about investment. It'll come,'" Kennedy said. Justices attempted to break the argument down to an everyday level by

saying that's not patentable, but you take a gene and snip off a piece, that is? What's the difference between the two?"

Castanias tried again, comparing the company's patented genes to medicine. "It's important to note that molecules have been patented for a very long time. That's what drugs are. And drugs are often made by taking one molecule and another molecule, both of which are known, reacting them in a test tube," he said. "Reactions have been around 100 years just like snipping has been, but they make something new and useful and lifesaving from that."

Roberts still wasn't convinced. "Well, I don't understand how this is at all like that, because there you're obviously combining things and getting something new. Here you're just snipping, and you don't have anything new, you have something that is a part of something that has existed previous to your intervention," he said.

That was the ruling of the original judge who looked at Myriad's patents after they were challenged by the ACLU in 2009. U.S. District Judge Robert Sweet said he invalidated the patents because DNA's existence in an isolated form does not alter the fundamental quality of DNA as it exists in the body or the information it encodes. But the federal appeals court reversed him in 2011, saying Myriad's genes can be patented because the isolated DNA has a "markedly different chemical structure" from DNA within the body.

The Supreme Court threw out that decision and sent the case back to the lower courts for rehearing. That came after the high court unanimously threw out patents on a Prometheus Laboratories Inc. test that could help doctors set drug doses for autoimmune diseases like Crohn's disease. The justices said the laws of nature are unpatentable. □



In this June 27, 2012 file photo, an American flag flies in front of the Supreme Court in Washington. DNA may be the building blocks of life, but can something taken from it be the building blocks of a multimillion-dollar medical monopoly?

Associated Press

and researchers and some people at risk for hereditary breast and ovarian cancer, have challenged the patents.

But Myriad argues — and the patent office and a federal appeals court have agreed — that the company's genes can be patented because the DNA that Myriad isolated from the body has a "markedly different chemical structure" from DNA within the body.

"What was 'merely snipped' out of the body here is fundamentally different in kind from what was in the body," Myriad lawyer Gregory A. Castanias said. "The most important reason it's different in kind is that it cannot be used in the body to detect the risk of breast and ovarian cancers."

The company has used its patent to come up with its BRCAAnalysis test, which looks for mutations on the breast cancer predisposition gene, or BRCA. Those mutations are associated

Myriad sells the only BRCA gene test. Opponents of its patents say the company can use its patents to keep other researchers from working with the BRCA gene to develop other tests.

In such matters, companies can have billions of dollars of investment and years of research on the line. Their advocates argue that without the ability to recoup their investment through the profits that patents bring, breakthrough scientific discoveries to combat all kinds of medical maladies wouldn't happen. That concerned several justices.

"Why shouldn't we worry that Myriad or companies like it will just say, 'Well, you know, we're not going to do this work anymore?'" Justice Elena Kagan asked.

Hansen said that a company could get recognition for its work and that money for research would always be available, a statement that Justice Anthony Ken-

discussing things like chocolate chip cookies, baseball bats and jungle plants. Castanias, the Myriad lawyer, argued that the justices could think about the gene question like a baseball bat. "A baseball bat doesn't exist until it's isolated from a tree. But that's still the product of human invention to decide where to begin the bat and where to end the bat," he said.

That didn't work for Chief Justice John Roberts.

"The baseball bat is quite different. You don't look at a tree and say, well, I've cut the branch here and cut it here and all of a sudden I've got a baseball bat. You have to invent it, if you will," Roberts said. "You don't have to invent the particular segment of the strand. You just have to cut it off."

The court moved on to body parts. Said Justice Sonia Sotomayor, "If you cut off a piece of the whole in the kidney or liver, you're

Boston Marathon

Continued from Front page

A pool of blood formed, and huge shards were missing from window panes as high as three stories.

"They just started bringing people in with no limbs," said runner Tim Davey, of Virginia. He said he and his wife, Lisa, tried to keep their children's eyes shielded from the gruesome scene inside a medical tent that had been set up to care for fatigued runners, but "they saw a lot."

Police said three people were killed.

An 8-year-old boy was among the dead, according to a person who talked to a friend of the family and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Boston police said three people were killed. Hospitals reported at least 144 injured, at least 17 of them critically. The injuries ranged from cuts and bruises to amputations. Many victims suffered lower leg injuries and shrapnel wounds. Some suffered ruptured eardrums.

Some 23,000 runners took part in the race, which attracts more than 500,000 spectators and winds up in the heart of central Boston, near the landmark Prudential Center and the Boston Public Library.

It is held on Patriots Day, a Massachusetts state holiday which commemorates the first battles of the American Revolution in 1775.

Boston Police Commissioner Edward Davis asked people to stay indoors or go back to their hotel rooms and avoid crowds as bomb squads methodically checked parcels and bags left along the race route. He said investigators didn't know precisely where the bombs were planted or whether they were hidden in mailboxes or trash cans.

He said authorities had received "no specific intelligence that anything was going to happen" at the race.

The president was briefed on the incident Monday



People react to an explosion at the 2013 Boston Marathon in Boston, Monday, April 15, 2013.

Associated Press

by several senior administration officials, including FBI Director Robert Mueller and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano. He also spoke with Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick and Boston Mayor Tom Menino and pledged to provide whatever federal support was needed. Additionally, the president spoke with Republican and Democratic leaders on Capitol Hill, saying that "on days like this, there are no Republicans or Democrats, we are Americans united in our concern for our fellow citizens."

The Federal Aviation Administration created a no-fly zone over the site of the explosions, and briefly ordered flights bound for Boston's Logan International Airport held on the ground at airports around the U.S. A few miles (kilometers) away from the finish line and around the same time, a fire broke out at the John F. Kennedy presidential library. The police commissioner said it may have been caused by an incendiary device but didn't appear to be related to the bombings.

The first loud explosion occurred on the north side of Boylston Street, just before the photo bridge that marks the finish line. The second explosion could be heard a few seconds later. They occurred about four hours into the race and two

hours after the men's winner crossed the line. By that point, more than 17,000 of the runners had finished the race, but thousands of others were farther back along the course.

The four-hour mark is typically a highly crowded time near the finish line — both because of the slow-but-steady recreational runners likely to be completing the race and because of all the relatives and friends clustered around to cheer them on.

Runners in the medical tent for treatment of dehydration or other race-related ills were pushed out to make room for victims of the bombing.

A senior U.S. intelligence official said the two other explosive devices found nearby were being dismantled. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the findings publicly.

At the White House, the Secret Service expanded its security perimeter after the attacks, shutting down Pennsylvania Avenue and cordoning off the area with yellow police tape. Several Secret Service patrol cars blocked off entry points, although the White House was not on lockdown and tourists and other onlookers were still allowed in the park across the street.

At Congress, members of intelligence committees

fled the chaos. Authorities went onto the course to carry away the injured while race stragglers were rerouted away from the smoking site.

Roupen Bastajian, a 35-year-old state police officer from the neighboring state of Rhode Island, had just finished the race when they put the heat blanket wrap on him and he heard the blasts.

"I started running toward the blast. And there were people all over the floor," he said. "We started grabbing tourniquets and started tying legs. A lot of people amputated. ... At least 25 to 30 people have at least one leg missing, or an ankle missing, or two legs missing."

At Massachusetts Gen-



As Boston Marathon runners walk by, SWAT team members stand guard near the finish line in Boston Monday, April 15, 2013.

Associated Press

said they expected to be briefed on the attack on Tuesday.

A woman who was near the second bomb, Brigid Wall, 35, said that when it exploded, runners and spectators froze, unsure of what to do.

Her husband threw their children to the ground, lay on top of them and another man lay on top of them and said, "Don't get up, don't get up."

She said she saw six to eight people bleeding profusely, including one man who was kneeling, dazed, with blood coming down his head. Another person was on the ground covered in blood and not moving.

"My ears are zinging. Their ears are zinging. It was so forceful. It knocked us to the ground."

Competitors and race volunteers were crying as they

eral Hospital, said Alisdair Conn, chief of emergency services: "This is something I've never seen in my 25 years here ... this amount of carnage in the civilian population. This is what we expect from war."

The Boston Marathon honored the victims of the December shooting in Newtown, Connecticut, with a special mile marker in Monday's race.

Cities worldwide stepped up security following the explosions.

In Britain, police said they were reviewing security plans for Sunday's London Marathon, the next major international marathon. Thousands of people compete in the London Marathon every year, thronging the city's streets. London is also considered a top target for international terrorists. □



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Boston tragedy delays immigration bill

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senators are set to unveil a sweeping immigration bill this week to secure the border, remake legal immigration, boost workplace enforcement and put 11 million people in the U.S. illegally on a path to citizenship. A group of eight lawmakers, equally divided between Republicans and Democrats, planned to formally introduce the bill Tuesday, although a press event with activists, business leaders and religious groups was delayed until later in the week after the bombing at the Boston marathon.

Sens. Chuck Schumer, a New York Democrat, and John McCain, an Arizona Republican, planned to meet with President Barack Obama Tuesday to discuss the legislation with him, according to a person with knowledge of the plan who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the private meeting. Immigration legislation is a top second-term priority for the president.



In this photo released by CBS News Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., appear on Sunday, April 7, 2013, on CBS's "Face the Nation". McCain and Schumer spoke about gun legislation, the latest developments with North Korea and immigration.

Associated Press

The legislation would be the culmination of months of closed-door meetings among a so-called Gang of Eight senators, including McCain, Schumer and Republican Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida. Their legislation aims to

strike a balance between enforcement provisions sought by Republicans, and Democratic priorities, including making citizenship widely accessible to those illegally in the U.S. McCain, Rubio and other Republicans who wrote

the immigration bill briefed other members of the Senate Republican caucus on its contents Monday night. Afterward, some senators said they appreciated the briefing but still have much to learn before they can commit to supporting the

legislation. Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio said there needs to be a focus on enforcement before anything else. And Sen. John Boozman of Arkansas said he has concerns about anything that could be perceived as amnesty. □



Obama asks Shultz, Baker to go to Thatcher funeral

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama has asked former Secretaries of State George Shultz and James A. Baker III to lead a delegation to former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's funeral.

Shultz served as secretary of state to President Ronald Reagan and Baker to President George H.W. Bush. Both served in the position while Thatcher was in office.

The White House said other delegation members would

be Barbara Stephenson, the charge d'affaires at the U.S. Embassy in London, and Louis Susman, former U.S. ambassador to the United Kingdom.

House Speaker John Boehner also announced Monday that he was sending three Republican representatives to Wednesday's funeral. Tennessee Rep. Marsha Blackburn is leading the delegation that also includes Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann and North Carolina Rep. George Holding. □

In this July 18, 1987 file photo, President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz look on as British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher reads a statement outside the White House in Washington.

Source: Case being built against ex-Texas official



This photo provided by the Kaufman County Sheriff's Office shows Eric Williams. Williams was admitted to the Kaufman County Jail, in Kaufman, Texas, early Saturday, April 13, 2013, and charged with making a "terroristic threat."

Associated Press

spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the ongoing investigation.

The official said at least 20 weapons found in Williams' storage locker are being tested by ballistics experts. A Ford Crown Victoria similar to one seen and video recorded in the McLellands' neighborhood on the day they died also was found at the locker, the official said.

A state law enforcement official spent two-and-half hours visiting with the storage facility's manager Monday. The official went into the manager's office with a small black duffel bag and left with the bag as well as what appeared to be several documents. The manager, Larry Mathis, declined to comment after the meeting.

The storage locker is located in Seagoville, about 15 miles west of Williams' home, where two signs on the front doors Monday instructed media seeking comment to contact Da-

vid Sergi, Williams' attorney in the theft case. However, a woman who answered the phone at Sergi's office said he would not have any comment on the case Monday.

Authorities have said little about their investigation into the McLellands' deaths and have not named any suspects. Previous possible culprits mentioned included a white supremacist prison gang known as the Aryan Brotherhood of Texas, which had been targeted by a task force that included McLelland's office. Two others have been arrested for making terroristic threats during the investigation into the slayings, but authorities said they had no connection to the deaths. The McLellands were killed about two months after one of McLelland's prosecutors, Mark Hasse, was slain outside the local courthouse. McLelland and Hasse both participated in last year's prosecution of Williams on charges he stole three computer monitors from an office building. □

By DANNY ROBBINS
Associated Press

KAUFMAN, Texas (AP) — Texas authorities investigating the killing of a district attorney and his wife are working to build a case against a former justice of the peace prosecuted last year by the slain official's office, a law enforcement official said Monday.

Eric Lyle Williams, 46, was arrested over the weekend and remains jailed on a charge of making a terroristic threat. He is being held on \$3 million bond.

Authorities allege he emailed an anonymous threat to law officers from his personal computer one

day after Kaufman County District Attorney Mike McLelland and his wife, Cynthia, were found dead in their home on March 30. The email implied that if authorities didn't respond to various demands, there'd be another attack, according to a probable cause affidavit released by the sheriff's office.

Williams' arrest came after federal and local agents investigating the couple's deaths searched Williams' home and a storage facility, and investigators are now focused on trying to build a case against him, according to the law enforcement official, who

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Pope Francis supports crackdown on U.S. nuns

By **NICOLE WINFIELD**

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The Vatican said Monday that Pope Francis supports the Holy See's crackdown on the largest umbrella group of U.S. nuns, dimming hopes that a Jesuit pope whose emphasis on the poor mirrored the nuns' own social outreach would take a different approach than his predecessor.

The Vatican last year imposed an overhaul of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious after determining the sisters took positions that undermined Catholic teaching on the priesthood and homosexuality while promoting "radical feminist themes incompatible with the Catholic faith." Investigators praised the nuns' humanitarian work, but accused them of ignoring critical issues, including fighting abortion. On Monday, the heads of the conference met with the prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Archbishop Gerhard Mueller, who is in charge of the crackdown.



Pope Francis celebrates a Mass in St. Paul Outside the Walls Basilica in Rome, Sunday, April 14, 2013.

Associated Press

It was their first meeting since Mueller was appointed in July.

In a statement, Mueller's office said he told the sisters that he had discussed the matter recently with Francis and that the pope had "re-affirmed the findings of the assessment and the program of reform."

The conference, for its part, said the talks were "open and frank," and noted that Mueller had informed them of Francis' decision.

"We pray that these conversations may bear fruit for the good of the Church," the conference said on its website.

The Vatican crackdown unleashed a wave of popular support for the sisters, including parish vigils, protests outside the Vatican's embassy in Washington, D.C., and a U.S. Congressional resolution commending the sisters for their service to the country.

Following Francis' elec-

tion, several sisters had expressed hope that a Jesuit pope devoted to the poor and stressing a message of mercy rather than condemnation would take a gentler approach than his predecessor, Benedict XVI. Francis has called for a more "tender" church and one that serves society's poorest — precisely a message American sisters have stressed in their ministry in hospitals, hospices, soup kitchens and schools that serve some of the most marginalized in the U.S.

The Rev. James Martin, a Jesuit author who has been a staunch supporter of the U.S. sisters, cautioned against reading too much into the Vatican statement. He noted that Francis' first appointment to the Vatican bureaucracy was that of the Rev. Jose Rodriguez Carballo as the No. 2 in the Vatican's congregation for religious orders. Rodriguez Carballo had been superior of the Friars Minor branch of the Franciscan order that was founded by the pope's namesake, St. Francis of Assisi, who devoted himself to

helping the poor.

Martin said it would have been unusual for Francis to undo a process that has been years in the works and that as a Jesuit he is "naturally going to be sympathetic" to the challenges faced by members of religious orders, such as those represented by the nuns' conference.

As part of its imposed reforms, the Vatican appointed Seattle Archbishop Peter Sartain and two other bishops to oversee a rewriting of the conference's statutes, to review its plans and programs, approve speakers and ensure the group properly follows Catholic prayer and ritual.

The conference represents about 57,000 sisters, or 80 percent of U.S. nuns. It has argued that the Vatican reached "flawed" conclusions based on "unsubstantiated accusations." The group's officers have said they would participate in discussions with Sartain "as long as possible" but vowed they would not compromise their group's mission. □

Judge denies Gitmo detainee's bid for relief

FREDERIC J. FROMMER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal judge Monday denied an emergency motion for relief filed by a Guantanamo Bay prisoner on a hunger strike, despite pleas from the man's lawyer who says his client is dying.

U.S. District Judge Thomas Hogan ruled Monday that he didn't have jurisdiction over the case filed by Yemeni prisoner Musaab al-Madhwani. Hogan pointed to a provision of the Military Commissions Act which bars judicial review of claims made by detained enemy combatants regarding their conditions of confinement.

The prisoner and others in the hunger strike originally claimed that they were being denied drinking water and that temperatures in the prison had been kept

at "extremely frigid" levels — which the government denied. But the claim was expanded to include the allegation that Guantanamo officials had shown "deliberate indifference" to al-Madhwani's serious medical needs.

Although the case was technically about just one detainee, it was clearly about the continued use of Guantanamo to house terrorism suspects, despite President Barack Obama's promise to close the prison. When one of al-Madhwani's lawyers, Darold Killmer, mentioned the alleged mistreatment of other detainees, Hogan responded, "This is not a class-action."

At the end of the roughly one-hour hearing, Hogan noted that al-Madhwani voluntarily participated in the hunger strike, adding

that the prisoner "self-manufactured" his health situation.

Earlier, Killmer told the judge, "Mr. al-Madhwani is dying." Killmer pointed to an affidavit filed by Dr. Stephen N. Xenakis, a physician who interviewed the prisoner on the phone, who concluded that the prisoner's "life may be in imminent danger."

Xenakis wrote that after being treated with intravenous fluids following a collapse last week, the prisoner was placed in solitary confinement and has not received daily monitoring of his medical condition.

"Given the gravity of his condition, these failures constitute deliberate indifference to his obvious serious medical needs," Xenakis wrote.

Killmer claimed that putting



In this Oct. 9, 2007 file photo, Guantanamo guards keep watch over a cell block with detainees in Camp 6 maximum-security facility, at Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base, Cuba.

Associated Press

him in solitary confinement was "retaliation" against al-Madhwani for participating in the hunger strike.

But the judge raised jurisdiction issues from the get-go. Killmer argued that a Supreme Court decision

which established detainees' constitutional right to challenge their confinement gave the judge jurisdiction in this case. If al-Madhwani dies, Killmer said, he doesn't get to exercise that right. □

Mexico judge acquits ex-drug czar linked to cartel

A forensic worker covers the body of a woman who was shot dead by assailants, whose daughter was also killed, while she was selling coffee on a street corner in Acapulco, Mexico, Tuesday, April 9, 2013. Violence, kidnappings and extortions carried out by drug cartels continue to plague this Pacific resort city which has witnessed a large increase in violent crimes during the past years.

Associated Press



OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press

MORELIA, Mexico (AP) — A Mexican judge on Monday acquitted a former drug czar who was charged with organized crime after he allegedly accepted \$450,000 to leak details of police operations against members of the Pacific cartel, an alliance once led by the Sinaloa drug cartel.

Noe Ramirez was Mexico's top anti-drug prosecutor and the highest-ranking law enforcement official detained in 2008 as part of then President Felipe Calderon's sweeping effort to weed out corrupt officials with ties to organized crime.

A federal judge in western Nayarit state, where Ramirez has been held at a maximum security prison, ordered his release after

determining that the main witness in the case lied and prosecutors might have fabricated evidence, the country's Federal Judiciary Council said in a statement.

"Regarding the main witness, an informant code-named 'Jennifer,' it was shown that he acted with dishonesty, as it became clear that he lied when he gave his statements," the council said.

It said the judge found that there were high-level officials at the anti-drug prosecutors' office who were in collusion with organized crime but that there was no evidence Ramirez was part of that network.

Ramirez was one of five top officials detained as part of Calderon's "Operation Clean House." He had been named assistant

attorney general for organized crime in 2006 when Calderon took office, and resigned four months before his arrest.

The previous highest-ranking official arrested was Gen. Jesus Gutierrez Rebollo, then head of Mexico's anti-drug agency, who was detained in 1997 and later convicted of aiding deceased drug lord Amado Carrillo Fuentes.

Calderon's efforts to weed out corrupt officials suffered major setbacks after judges declared there was not enough evidence in many of the cases that were mainly based on testimony from witnesses, many of them informants under police protection.

In the most dramatic case, 10 mayors and 18 other top officials in Michoacan state were detained by federal authorities and charged with aiding La Familia drug cartel, but all were eventually released for lack of evidence.

This shows "that the information coming from these witnesses is not verified," said Samuel Gonzalez, Mexico's former top anti-drug prosecutor. "This is a vice seen in the last few years, this is (proof) of the poor handling of protected witnesses."

Officials at the federal Attorney General's Office didn't respond on Monday to messages seeking comment on whether it planned to appeal the Ramirez ruling. □



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Serbia massacre puts spotlight on Balkan vet woes

DARKO BANDIC
Associated Press

VUKOVAR, Croatia (AP) — Edin Kapidzic fought in Croatia's brutal war for independence and came out alive. Carrying on in peace turned out to be harder. Years after returning from the front lines, the former soldier from eastern Croatia hanged himself in a park in the hometown he defended during the 1991-95 conflict, part of the wider disintegration of the former Yugoslavia. Kapidzic left behind a wife and four children. But no suicide note. He was among nearly 2,000 Croatian war veterans who have killed themselves since war ended in the Balkan country of 4.2 million, which is now slated to join the European Union. An estimated 1,000 people commit suicide each year in Croatia, of whom 100 to 120 are the so-called Croatian defenders, or those who took part in the war, according to official statis-

tics. The numbers, experts warn, are likely to swell as former fighters grow older and feel even less needed by a society eager to forget the conflict and move on. The crushing stresses faced by veterans of Balkans wars grabbed international attention last week when a former Serb soldier killed 13 people in a pre-dawn rampage in central Serbia — a massacre his family linked to haunting memories of war in Croatia.

Such an extreme response to the psychological trauma brought on by combat is rare. But depression and suicides among Balkan veterans are becoming more prevalent.

"I get this feeling that I am no longer wanted in this world and that I should leave it," said Mato Matijevic, a wartime ambulance driver who has survived one suicide attempt. "Just to leave everything and go."



Serbian Orthodox priests attend a religious ceremony in front of coffins of victims of a shooting during a mass funeral in the village of Velika Ivanca, some 50 kilometers (30 miles) southeast of Belgrade, Serbia, Friday, April 12, 2013.

Associated Press

Across the Balkans, tens of thousands of war veterans from the ethnic conflicts of the 1990s' have had trouble fitting back into society upon return from the battlefields of the former Yugoslavia — the stage of Europe's worst carnage since World War II. Thousands of former fighters have experienced symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder — or PTSD — including anger and depression; many have turned to alcohol and drugs; in the worst cases they take their own lives or commit violence against those around them.

In last week's tragedy, Ljubisa Bogdanovic's victims included his mother, his adult son and a 2-year-old cousin. He turned the gun on himself and his wife, who survived; Bogdanovic died two days later. The gunman was described by neighbors as helpful and quiet, but his brother said he was tormented by the war. His wife reportedly told doctors he used to beat her and his son.

Balkan veterans often speak of survivor's guilt. "You dream of your dead friends, those who died on your hands, or you dream of the people you killed," said Tomislav Galovic, a 43-year-old veteran from the Croatian capital, Zagreb. "There is no way to explain."

Croatia's veterans have

committed suicide in public places; some blew themselves up or burned themselves alive. Such acts are often seen as a cry for help from an increasingly indifferent society or state. One veteran used a Croatian flag to hang himself — an apparent message that he felt betrayed by the country he fought for.

Post-combat psychological trauma is common among soldiers around the world. Ex-fighters in the Balkans often face the further burden of severe financial problems that make a return to normal life even more difficult. Many war veterans find themselves on the margins of society, coping on their own.

Matijevic, the former military ambulance driver, said that "the most traumatic moments are when I see on television how we, the defenders suffer, unable to fulfill our rights."

Dressed in a combat-style green jacket, his head clean-shaven, the tough-looking veteran said he left a construction job in Switzerland in 1991 to fight for his homeland. Matijevic now lives with his wife and daughter in a small house in an ethnically-mixed village in eastern Croatia — bitter over how things turned out for him and his country.

"They told us Croatia would become like Switzerland,"

he said, "but it is nowhere close to it."

Across the border in Serbia, veterans from the 1998-99 war in Kosovo have turned to the European Court of Human Rights to seek back pay from the state for the time they spent fighting, including the 78-day NATO bombardment of the country. More than 4,000 former soldiers in Bosnia have committed suicide since the end of the conflict in 1995, according to the veterans' association. There, Muslim Bosnian war veterans, who fought Serbs during the war, contributed money to a fund for their former enemies, who are now burdened by the same lack of jobs and income. According to the World Bank, less than 15 percent of all veteran-related benefits in Bosnia have actually ended up in the hands of those most in need. Dragan Sajic, who heads an association of PTSD civilian and veteran patients in the northern Bosnian town of Banja Luka, said that "often, after medical treatment, a patient returns to the same environment and conditions — unemployment and lack of hope for a better future." In Croatia's former front line town of Vukovar, rows of white crosses and candles honor those fallen in the war that killed 10,000 people. □

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Maduro certified as election winner amid protests

FRANK BAJAK
VIVIAN SEQUERA
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela's government-friendly electoral council quickly certified the razor-thin presidential victory of Hugo Chavez' hand-picked successor Monday, apparently ignoring opposition demands for a recount as anti-government protests broke out in the bitterly polarized nation.

People stood on their balconies in Caracas apartment buildings banging pots and pans in protest as the electoral council's president proclaimed Nicolas Maduro president for the next six years.

Across town, thousands of students clashed with National Guard troops in riot gear who fired tear gas and plastic bullets to turn the protesters back from marching on the city center. Students threw stones and pieces of concrete.

The city was otherwise peaceful, although protests were reported in provincial cities. There were no immediate reports of injuries.

Maduro was elected Sunday by a margin of 50.8 percent to 49 percent over challenger Henrique Capriles — a difference of just 262,000 votes out of 14.9 million cast, according to an updated official count released Monday.

Sworn in as acting president after Chavez's March 5 death from cancer, Maduro squandered a double-digit advantage in opinion polls in two weeks as Capriles highlighted what he called the ruling Chavistas' abysmal management of the oil-rich country's economy and infrastructure, citing myriad woes including food and medicine shortages, worsening power outages and rampant crime.

By contrast, Chavez had defeated Capriles by a nearly 11-point margin in October.

Until every vote is counted, Venezuela has an "illegitimate president and we denounce that to the world," Capriles tweeted Monday. One of the five members of the National Electoral

Council, independent Vicente Diaz, also backed a full recount, as did the United States and the Organization of American States.

But the electoral council president, Tibisay Lucena, said in announcing the outcome Sunday that it was "irreversible." At the proclamation ceremony Monday, she called Venezuela "a champion of democracy" and defended its electronic vote system as bullet-proof.

Capriles, a 40-year-old state governor, had demanded the proclamation be suspended. He convoked the pot-banging protest and asked supporters to gather outside the electoral council Tuesday. Capriles claimed that members of the military, "an important group in various cities," had been detained for trying to guarantee a free and fair election. He said they had been ordered to ignore abuses they witnessed. Capriles did not offer further details, such as how many were involved.

He said a vote count by his campaign produced "a different result" and it received more than 3,200 complaints of irregularities — all by pro-government forces. He demanded every single ballot be recounted.

Maduro's campaign manager, Jorge Rodriguez, called Capriles' actions "a coup attempt," while Maduro alleged such a plot was in preparation.

Risa Grais-Targow, an analyst with Eurasia Group, said Capriles' goal in demanding the recount without ever uttering the word "fraud" appears to undermine Maduro's legitimacy without provoking a political crisis or jeopardizing his role as opposition leader.

The winner is to be formally inaugurated Friday for a six-year-term.

Maduro said during his victory speech Sunday night. He did not, however, endorse a manual recount of individual ballots.

In Washington, White House spokesman Jay Carney said a "100 percent audit" of the results would

be "an important, prudent and necessary step to ensure that all Venezuelans have confidence in these results."

The secretary-general of the Organization of American States, Jose Miguel Insulza, also called for a "full recount."

Under Venezuela's voting system, 54 percent of the tallies printed out by individual voting machines are routinely audited and that was done Sunday night, Lucena said.

Individual ballots are not included in such audits.

No independent observer teams monitored the election as Chavez's government in recent years has rejected them. Instead it invited witnesses to "accompany the process."

The challenger's camp has not explained how it intends to proceed with the recount demand.

Venezuelan election law does not specify how a recount might proceed or whether a candidate even has the right to demand one, said Dashiell Lopez, coordinator of the independent voting rights group SUMATE.

He said an attempt to carry out a recount in December in Bolivar state failed because it wasn't sought in the legally required seven days.

The logistics alone are daunting.

A total of 39,319 boxes of paper ballot receipts were emitted by Venezuela's electronic voting system Sunday. They are now stored in warehouses under the control of the military. Those receipts would need to be checked against vote count printouts emitted by each individual voting machine. Those results would then be checked with the electoral council's central tally.

The electronic voting system itself was never questioned by the opposition and it has drawn praise from institutions such as the Carter Center as among the most reliable.

Analysts called the election result, which followed an often ugly campaign full of mudslinging, a disaster



Venezuela's interim President Nicolas Maduro holds the official certificate declaring him winner of the presidential election at the Electoral Council in Caracas, Venezuela, Monday, April 15, 2013..

Associated Press



Opposition presidential candidate Henrique Capriles talks to journalists in Caracas, Venezuela, Monday, April 15, 2013. Venezuela's government-friendly electoral council indicated Monday it would quickly certify the presidential victory of Hugo Chavez' hand-picked successor Nicolas Maduro, apparently ignoring opposition demands for a recount in Sunday's tight race.

for Maduro, a former union leader and bus driver believed to have close ties to Cuba.

A lackluster public speaker whose standard rhetoric features attacks on "the extreme right" that he says is constantly conspiring against him, Maduro must now endeavor to hold together a movement built around the magnetism of the now-departed Chavez. A hint of internal trouble to come came in a tweet by National Assembly President Diosdado Cabello, who many consider Maduro's main rival within their movement.

"The results oblige us to make a profound self-criticism," he said.

Few outside Venezuela had bigger stakes in the race than Cuban Presi-

dent Raul Castro, whose country receives generous subsidized oil exports from Venezuela in exchange for sending doctors, military advisories and other help to Venezuela.

Capriles had promised to end that exchange, as well as end close ties with other countries with questionable human rights and democracy records including Belarus and Iran.

Castro issued a statement congratulating Maduro for "this transcendental triumph."

Maduro, a longtime foreign minister to Chavez, had counted on a wave of sympathy for the charismatic leader, and in victory, asked his spirit for help, holding up a crucifix pinned to a card showing Chavez. □

After weeks of N. Korean fury, calm on key holiday

JEAN H. LEE

Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — North Koreans

danced in plazas and snacked on peanuts as part of holiday festivities while the Supreme Command led by North Korean leader Kim Jong Un offered more of the fiery language that has made the international community wary of an imminent missile launch or other provocation.

Early Tuesday, state media said the Supreme Command of the Korean People's Army issued an ultimatum to South Korea demanding an apology for "hostile acts" and threatening retaliation at any time. Such warnings are routine but do not often come from North Korea's top leadership.

In Seoul, the Defense Ministry said it received no such ultimatum, noting that there is no line of communication between the Koreas.

Meanwhile, North Koreans were taking a second day off to mark the birthday of late President Kim Il Sung,



A North Korean child covers the eyes of her father as she sits on his shoulders watching mass folk dancing in front of Pyongyang Indoor Stadium in Pyongyang, North Korea, on Monday, April 15, 2013. Oblivious to international tensions over a possible North Korean missile launch, Pyongyang residents spilled into the streets Monday to celebrate a major national holiday, the birthday of their first leader, Kim Il Sung

Associated Press

the nation's founder. Monday's celebrations capital featured colorful dance parties, soccer matches and the traditional laying of flowers at his statue. Families were enjoying the

day off, children scooting around on inline skates and slurping up shaved ice treats.

Kim Jong Un on Monday presided over basketball and volleyball competitions between military academies billed as "anti-American games" by the state media. Later, he and other top officials watched an orchestral performance at a new theater in downtown Pyongyang.

The birthday passed without any major provocations as feared.

Last year, Pyongyang fired a rocket in the days leading up to Kim Il Sung's birthday.

There was no sense of panic in the North Korean capital, where very few locals have access to international broadcasts and foreign newspapers speculating about an imminent missile launch and detailing the international diplomacy under way to try to rein in Pyongyang.

Elsewhere in the region, however, the focus remained on the threat of a launch as U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry wrapped up a tour to coordinate Washington's response with Beijing, North Korea's most important ally, as well

as with Seoul and Tokyo.

In Seoul, South Korean Defense Minister Kim Kwan-jin told a parliamentary committee Monday that North Korea still appeared poised to launch a missile from its east coast, though he declined to disclose the source of his information.

Kerry warned North Korea not to conduct a missile test, saying it would be provocation that "will raise people's temperatures" and further isolate the country and its impoverished people. He said Sunday that the U.S. was "prepared to reach out," but that Pyongyang must first bring down tensions and honor previous agreements.

Foreign governments have been trying to assess how seriously to take North Korea's recent torrent of rhetoric warning of war if the U.S. and South Korea do not stop holding joint military maneuvers just across the border.

Officials in South Korea, the United States and Japan say intelligence indicates that North Korea, fresh off an underground nuclear test in February, appears ready to launch a medium-range missile. North Korea has already been

slapped with strengthened U.N. sanctions for violating Security Council resolutions barring the regime from nuclear and missile activity.

North Korea has warned that the situation has grown so tense it cannot guarantee the safety of foreigners in the country and said embassies in Pyongyang should think about their evacuation plans. But British Foreign Secretary William Hague said Monday that although there is reason for concern over the "frenetic and bellicose" rhetoric, Britain believes there has been "no immediate increased risk or danger" to those living in or travelling to North Korea.

Kim Jong Un's renovation of the memorial palace that once served as his grandfather's presidential offices opened to the public, the vast cement plaza replaced by fountains, park benches, trellises and tulips. Stretches of green lawn were marked by small signs indicating which businesses — including the Foreign Trade Bank recently added to a U.S. Treasury blacklist — and government agencies donated funds to help pay for the landscaping.

Starting from early in the morning, residents dressed in their finest clothing began walking from all parts of Pyongyang to lay flowers and bow before the bronze statues of Kim and his son, late leader Kim Jong Il, as the mournful "Song of Gen. Kim Il Sung" played repeatedly.

Their birthdays are considered the most important holidays in North Korea, where reverence for the Kims is drummed into everyone. The largest basket of flowers at Mansu Hill was from Kim Jong Un, whose elaborate offering was cordoned off with ropes.

With that ritual done, many stopped at food stalls set up at the base of Mansu Hill to warm up with tea and snacks.

They queued at roadside snack stands for the rations of peanuts, a holiday tradition. □



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Second Course

SOUP OF THE DAY
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Israeli ban on Galliano dress sparks uproar



In this July 2, 2004 file photo, British fashion designer John Galliano appears after the presentation of his Spring/Summer 2005 men's fashion show, in Paris.

Associated Press

JOSEF FEDERMAN
Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's national broadcast authority has banned the country's contestant in the upcoming Eurovision song contest from wearing a dress made by John Galliano, citing an anti-Semitic rant by the celebrity designer two years ago. There's only one problem: Galliano says he never offered to make the dress. Galliano's publicist, Liz Rosenberg, said Monday that claims by singer Moran Mazor that Galliano

had agreed to design her dress were false, and that there had not been any "official correspondence" between the singer's stylist and Galliano. "That was reconfirmed to me moments ago by John himself," she said in an email. The issue of Mazor's dress has set off a minor uproar in Israel. Mazor was quoted in Israeli media last week as saying she reached out to several designers to help her with her dress for the competition, and that Galliano ac-

cepted the offer. Her announcement prompted Yoav Ginai, an executive at the state-run Israel Broadcast Authority, which broadcasts the competition, to fire off a letter to the singer's representatives saying that she would not be allowed to wear a dress designed by Galliano "under any circumstance." The letter referred to Galliano's drunken tirade at a Paris cafe two years ago, caught on videotape, in which he hurled racist and anti-Semitic insults and slurred, "I love Hitler." He was dismissed from Christian Dior, left his namesake label and was convicted by a French court on complaints of anti-Semitic behavior. Galliano has since said he is an alcoholic. He has been in recovery for the past two years and expressed regret for causing pain to the Jewish community. "I have no doubt that you,

too, as an Israeli and a Jew, understand that such a 'glorious resume,' especially at a time of racism and anti-Semitism across Europe, denies this man any right to dress or work with a representative of Israel for the Eurovision, even if he has 'apologized,'" Ginai wrote. Ginai's letter drew an angry response from Abraham Foxman, the national director of the Anti-Defamation League, a New York-based group that combats anti-Semitism. In an interview, Foxman said he has met with Galliano five or six times over the past two years and believes his apology is sincere. He said he has put Galliano in touch with Jewish scholars and community leaders and given him books to read. "I believe that if we want people to change their minds and hearts, you've got to accept when they say they are sorry," Foxman said. "I

see a human being who wants to repair." He said the Israeli refusal to accept his apologies appeared "arrogant and vengeful." Galliano declined an interview request. But Rosenberg, his publicist, said he appreciated Foxman's support. "Mr. Galliano has been working diligently these last two years on his sobriety, making amends and seeking forgiveness from the Jewish community and the people he offended," she said. "I appreciate that there are people who may never forgive him but hope that his actions as he moves forward inspire people to give him another chance." Mazor did not respond to an emailed request for comment. Her stylist, Gili Algabi, said he was still in touch with assistants to Galliano about designing the dress. He added he had never been in direct contact directly with Galliano.

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AP Interview: UN puts spotlight on 'stunted' kids

SHAWN POGATCHNIK

Associated Press

DUBLIN (AP) — The United Nations Children's Fund says more than a quarter of children under the age of 5 worldwide are permanently "stunted" from malnutrition, leaving them physically and intellectually weak and representing a scandalous waste of human potential.

Anthony Lake, executive director of UNICEF since 2010, said organized provision of vitamins and clean water and a focus from birth on breastfeeding could have helped these 165 million children achieve normal brain and body development. But their lack of proper nutrition means instead they will suffer increased vulnerability to illness and early death.

"Stunting is the least understood, least recognized and least acted upon crisis. It is a hidden crisis for these children," said Lake, a veteran U.S. diplomat who was national security adviser to President Bill Clinton in the 1990s.

Lake said the failure to give children enough Vitamin

A, iron and folic acid when developing in the womb, and a balanced diet with clean drinking water in the first 2 years of life, doomed most of them to being anchors on their impoverished societies.

"Stunted doesn't mean simply short," Lake told The Associated Press in an interview. "The child's brain never properly develops. Irrevocably. That's it. You can't fix it later. You can fix being underweight. You can't fix being stunted after age 2."

Lake was in Dublin to unveil the findings in a report at a global conference focused on combating hunger and malnutrition. He showed slides of CAT scans of stunted children's brains, with weaker cell and nerve development. "What this means is, for the remainder of that child's life, irrevocably the child will learn less in school, will earn less later, is more vulnerable to disease," he said. "This is a tragic violation of that child's life, but it's also a tremendous strain on that society." The U.N. report found that 24 countries with

the highest levels of stunted children were concentrated in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. More than half of those under age 5 in Timor-Leste, Burundi, Niger and Madagascar suffered from stunting. The country with the largest number of stunted children was India with 61.7 million, or 48 percent of all Indians under age 5. Lake said the problem of stunted child development was growing in Syria because of its civil war and widespread disruption to medical care, schools and family life. Even before the onset of war, the report found, Syria's stunting rate for its children was 28 percent. When asked what part of the world most needed attention, Lake said he could offer only "a sad litany of how many spots there are." But he said in every country where stunting was identified as a major problem, UNICEF officials were working with local aid agencies and the government. He said even Syria and North Korea permitted U.N. and local officials to distribute the water, vitamins and



In this April 3, 2013 photograph, an Indian child falls asleep while seeking alms from commuters on the stairs leading to a metro train station in New Delhi, India.

Associated Press

In this April 3, 2013 photograph, an Indian child falls asleep while seeking alms from commuters on the stairs leading to a metro train station in New Delhi, India. The United Nations Children's Fund says more than a quarter of children under the age of 5 worldwide are permanently "stunted" from malnutrition, leaving them physically and intellectually weak and representing a scandalous waste of human potential. According to a U.N. report released Monday, the country with the largest number of stunted children was India with 61.7 million, or 48 percent of all Indians under age 5.

education to expectant mothers. "I've never had any (country) push back," he said. "There's a natural reluctance among all governments to say: 'Yes we have a problem that we could have fixed quicker.' So you're always going to get a little bit of denial. But I've never heard of a country that said: 'No, we're not going to deal with it.'" Lake noted that ensuring ideal growth during the key first 2 years of life didn't just mean eating a lot.

"People too often assume if you get enough food to eat, you're getting enough nutrition to head off mal-

nutrition or stunting. The fact is you can eat lots of food and not get enough nutrients," he said, noting that India suffered no food shortages yet produced 38 percent of the world's stunted children.

He said women in the Third World particularly needed to focus on breast feeding for the child's first six months because exposing the child to local tainted water supplies could mean diarrhea, one of the greatest killers in poor countries. Lake said diarrhea, if it didn't kill the child, "washes the nutrients out of the kid and stunts them." □



Divi Resorts' Excellence Awards for the First Quarter 2013

DRUIF BEACH - The Human Resources Department organized its Excellence Awards, Easter Edition, for the 1st Quarter to honor the different anniversaries and also the nominees for Employee and Supervisor of the Quarter.

The Nominees for Employee of the First Quarter for Divi/Dutch & Golf were: Marie Damis F&B, Virgilio Erasmus Engineering, Nadira Rajkumar Front Office, Civil Ariste Landscaping, Lea Joseph Housekeeping, Luis Feliz Housekeeping, Ronald Feliciano Landscaping, and Rolando Macabulos Outside Operations; and the winner was Virgilio Erasmus from the Engineering Department. The nominees for Supervisor of the First Quarter for Divi/Dutch & Golf were: Marta Ligia Coes Housekeeping, Giandra Pietersz Engineering, and Xiomara Piedrahita Housekeeping; and the winner was Marta Ligia Croes from Housekeeping Department.

The Nominees for Employee of the First Quarter for Divi & Tamarijn were: Elisia Jeannesil Kitchen, Diana Valencia Kitchen, Jose Ridderstap Pool, Randall Thiel Storeroom, and Fabian Bermudez Engineering; and the winner was Randall Thiel from the Warehouse Department. The Nominee and winner for Supervisor of the First Quarter for Divi & Tamarijn was: Hernan Sanao from the Tamarijn Kitchen Department.

Celebrating their 5th Anniversary were: Consuelo Cruz Housekeeping Divi/Dutch, Rith Altidor Housekeeping Divi/Dutch Caricenne Ulysse Kitchen Divi/Dutch, Rashir Navas Engineering Divi/Dutch, Ryan Maduro Front Office Divi/Dutch, Norma Cuevas Kitchen Divi/Dutch, Ma-



ria Jansen Landscaping Divi/Dutch, Anuar Labad Kitchen Divi Golf, Oveida Kock Mulligans Divi Golf, Gunther Dijkhoff Kitchen Divi Golf, Nicolaas Tromp Engineering Divi Golf, Elvy Fernandez Landscaping Divi Golf, Felix Abreu Mulligans Divi Golf, Dominador Torres Landscaping Divi Golf, Egbert Franken Mulligans Divi Golf, Jennifer Lugo Mulligans Divi Golf, Jacinto Thomas Windows Divi Golf, Tonito Koolman Windows Divi Golf, Marcelino Wouters F&B Tamarijn, Tony Williams F&B Tamarijn, Annemiek Wouters Front Office Tamarijn, Verita Ben-

ita Accounting Tamarijn, Sharenda Clarinda Human Resources Tamarijn, Marisol Mendez Kitchen Divi, Elsa Noguera Kitchen Divi, Georgio Arends Storeroom Divi, and Elisia Jeannesil Kitchen Divi. Celebrating their 10th Anniversary were: Rasheed Khan Engineering Ducth Village, Mildred Esguerra Executive Office Divi/Dutch, John Dunlock F&B Tamarijn, Elvis Perez F&B Tamarijn, Maribel Medrano Housekeeping Tamarijn, Ludwiska Romano Pbx Tamarijn, John Rios Bar Tamarijn, Carmen Carrasco Kitchen

Tamarijn, Olinda Marlin F&B Tamarijn, Janine Thiel Front Office Divi, Jose Castillo Luna Landscaping Divi, Yvandrick Alexis Kitchen Divi, Clairlira Jean Kitchen Divi, Gertrude Belzius Kitchen Divi, and Randolph Simon Bar Divi. Celebrating their 15th Anniversary were: Shirley Lobo F&B Divi/Dutch, Andrea Davis Hk Tamarijn, Elvis Jack F&B Tamarijn, Siltro Donato Warehouse Divi, and Vivian Semeleer Kitchen Divi. Celebrating their 20th Anniversary were: Lorraine Krind Front Office Divi/Dutch, Maria Esguerra Hu-

man Resources Tamarijn, Osbaldo Correa Front Office Tamarijn, Roberta Vrolijk Reservations Tamarijn, Marion Mclennon Housekeeping Tamarijn, Maria Croes Kitchen Divi, and Teodora Becker Housekeeping Divi. Celebrating their 25th Anniversary were: Justina Granda Housekeeping Divi/Dutch, Carmen Hernandez Housekeeping Divi/Dutch, Pauline Romano Housekeeping Divi/Dutch, Silvia Gonzalez Housekeeping Tamarijn, Jenny Martinus Laundry Tamarijn, Angela Arndell F&B Tamarijn, Johan Bosnie F&B Tamarijn, Rita Maduro Housekeeping Divi, Henry Beyde Engineering Divi, Marta Pineda Kitchen Divi, Jeanette Tromp F&B Divi, Anjer Thode Bar Divi, and Maria Terrero Kitchen Divi. Celebrating their 30th Anniversary were: Michael Maduro F&B Tamarijn, Ilberto Peña F&B Tamarijn, and Leslie James Engineering Divi. Celebrating their 35th Anniversary were: Marie Kingsale Kitchen Divi, Yvonne Baptiste Housekeeping Divi, and Albertis Murray F&B Divi.

Celebrating their 40th Anniversary were: Reynaldo Paesch Bar Tamarijn, and Sandra Barroso Housekeeping Divi. Congratulations to all the nominees and winners and thank you to all the employees celebrating their anniversaries with the company. Your hard work and dedication has been appreciated! There was also a fun egg hunt at the end of the award ceremony where many employees could win some wonderful prizes. Thank you to all once again! □

First McDonald's Dessert Center in Aruba opens



Aruba, April 15 2013 - Arcos Dorados, McDonald's franchisee and operator of the largest quick service restaurant chain in Latin America and the Caribbean, announced the company has opened its first McDonald's Dessert Center segment in Aruba. This new segment will offer an all dessert menu located in Paseo Herencia Shopping & Entertainment Center at Palm Beach. The dessert center will be open seven days a week from 12:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

The Dessert Center will offer McDonald's popular McFlurry, Sundaes, Cones and Shakes. With this new segment, Arcos Dorados contributes to the economy of Aruba by creating new employment opportunities with new positions as Crew and Hostess. Aruba will have the seventh McDonald's Dessert Center in the Caribbean region.

Arcos Dorados recently opened its third McDonald's in Aruba, at Seroe Blanco which has the second McCafé in Aruba, a coffee-house-style food and drink chain owned by McDonald's. The first McCafé in Aruba was last year at the High Rise, Palm Beach store. The other McDonald's restaurant in Aruba is located at Santa Cruz.

For more than two decades, Aruba has been a very important community for McDonald's and Arcos Dorados provides a major

force in the economic development of the island.

For more information about McDonald's, "Like" the Facebook page McDonald's Curacao & Aruba or follow McDonald's on Twitter - @McDonalds_CA.

About Arcos Dorados Arcos Dorados is the world's largest McDonald's franchisee in terms of system wide sales and number of restaurants, operating the largest quick service restaurant ("QSR") chain in Latin America and the Caribbean. It has the exclusive right to own, operate and grant franchises of McDonald's restaurants in 20 countries and territories, including Argentina, Aruba, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curacao, Ecuador, French Guyana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico, St. Croix, St. Thomas, Trinidad & Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Arcos Dorados operates or franchises 1,948 McDonald's-branded restaurants with over 90,000 employees serving approximately 4.3 million customers a day (as of December 31st, 2012).

Recognized as one of the best companies to work for in Latin America, Arcos Dorados is traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: ARCO).

To learn more about the company please visit our website: www.arcosdorados.com.

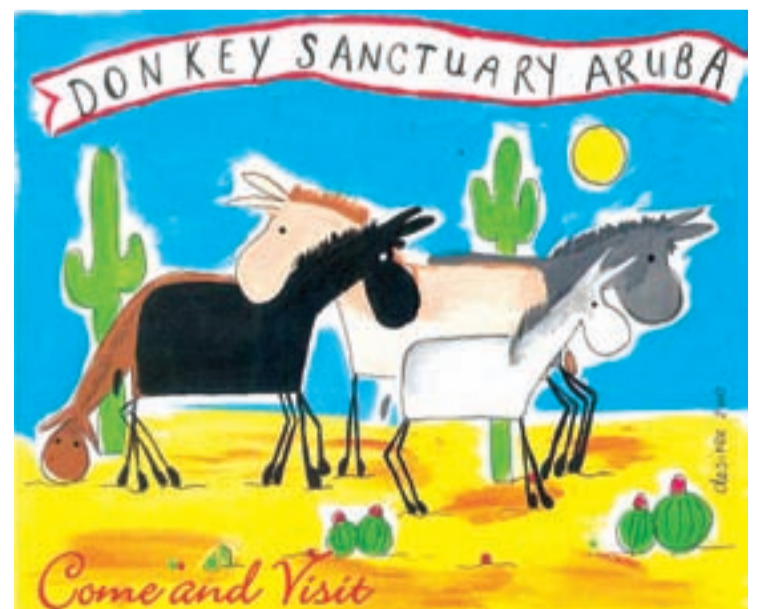
**Beauty
On The
Beach**

**Heather
Ravelli**

She is staying at the Renaissance Aruba Resort. It is her first visit and she mentioned it will not be her last, she will come back next year. What she love the most of Aruba is the Friendliness of the locals.

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NHL game postponed, security upped after bombings

HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Sports Writer

A few hours after the Boston Marathon bombings, and on the other side of the United States, a police officer with a German shepherd patrolled near an entrance to the baseball stadium where Miami hosted Washington on Monday evening — an unusual sight at Marlins Park. Inside, on the field, two Marlins officials gave a security supervisor a briefing about the ballpark's layout.

"We are taking additional precautions and have intensified our security efforts in and around the ballpark to ensure everyone's safety," Marlins spokesman P.J. Loyello said.

The postponement of Monday night's NHL game between the Bruins and Ottawa Senators, and the cancellation of Tuesday's NBA game between the Boston Celtics and Indiana Pacers — both events to be held in Boston — were the most tangible reactions by sports officials to the explosions at the marathon finish line that killed two people and injured many others.

An alternate date for Bruins-Senators was not announced; no other events from top professional leagues around the country were immediately called off.

Continued on Page 18



St. Louis Blues center David Backes (42) checks Detroit Red Wings defenseman Niklas Kronwall (55), of Sweden, in the first period of a NHL hockey game in Detroit Sunday April 7, 2013.

Associated Press
Page 20

Ethiopia's Desisa, Kenya's Jeptoo win in Boston

JIMMY GOLEN
AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Lelisa Desisa of Ethiopia took the title in the 117th edition of the Boston Marathon on Monday, winning a three-way sprint down Boylston Street to finish in 2 hours, 10 minutes, 22 seconds.

In just his second race at the 26.2-mile distance, Desisa finished 5 seconds ahead of Kenya's Micah Kogo to earn \$150,000 and the traditional olive wreath. Gebregziabher Gebremariam of Ethiopia was another second behind him, in third place, with American Jason Hartmann matching his 2012 finish by coming in fourth. Rita Jeptoo won the women's race earlier for her second Boston victory. Jeptoo, who also won in 2006, finished in 2:26:25 for her first win in a major race since taking two years off after having a baby.

After a series of close finishes in the women's race — five consecutive years with 3 or fewer seconds separating the top two — Jeptoo had a relatively comfortable 33-second lead over Meseret Hailu of Ethiopia, with defending champion Sharon Cherop of Kenya another 3 seconds



Rita Jeptoo of Kenya and Lelisa Desisa of Ethiopia pose with a trophy at the finish line after winning the women's and men's divisions of the 2013 Boston Marathon in Boston Monday, April 15, 2013.
Associated Press

back. American Shalane Flanagan, of nearby Marblehead, was fourth in the women's division.

This year it was the men's race with the sprint to the finish.

Desisa was among a group of nine men — all from Kenya or Ethiopia — who broke away from the pack in the first half of the race. There were three remaining when they came out of Kenmore Square with a

mile to go.

But Desisa quickly pulled away and widened his distance in the sprint to the tape.

He is the fourth Ethiopian to win the men's race and the 24th East African to win in the past 26 years. Jeptoo is the third straight Kenyan woman to win and the 15th East African winner in the last 17 years on the women's side.

Lisa Larsen-Weidenbach,

who won in 1985, is the last American champion; 1983 winner Greg Meyer was the last American man to break the tape.

A year after heat approaching 90 degrees sent record numbers of participants in search of medical help, temperatures in the high 40s greeted the field of 24,662 at the start in Hopkinton. It climbed to 54 degrees by the time the winners reached Copley

Square in Boston.

Japan's Hiroyuki Yamamoto was the first winner of the day, cruising to victory in the men's wheelchair race by 39 seconds over nine-time champion Ernst Van Dyk of South Africa. Tatyana McFadden, a Russian orphan who attends the University of Illinois, won the women's race.

Race day got started with 26 seconds of silence in honor of the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting. A little more than 2 hours later, the lead runners will go past the Mile 26 marker, which has been decorated with the Newtown, Conn., seal and dedicated to the memory of those killed there.

The 53 wheelchair competitors left Hopkinton at 9:17 a.m., followed 15 minutes later by the 51 elite women. The men were under way at 10 a.m., followed by three waves that over the next 40 minutes would send the entire field of 27,000 on its way to Copley Square. Last year's race came under the hottest sustained temperatures on record. About 2,300 runners took organizers up on the offer to sit that one out and run this year instead. □

Sports

Continued from page 17

Still, other effects of the explosions could be seen quickly, such as bomb-sniffing dogs sweeping the arena before the doors opened for an NHL game in Nashville between the Predators and Canucks, and armed police officers posted in front of each dugout at the Padres-Dodgers baseball game in Los Angeles.

More toughened measures are expected as security is calibrated for upcoming major events that draw big crowds including the Kentucky Derby on May 4, and the Indianapolis 500 on May 26.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway spokesman Doug Boles said Monday's attack will be a part of future



Medical workers wheel the injured across the finish line during the 2013 Boston Marathon following an explosion in Boston, Monday, April 15, 2013. Two explosions shattered the euphoria of the Boston Marathon finish line on Monday, sending authorities out on the course to carry off the injured while the stragglers were rerouted away from the smoking site of the blasts.

Associated Press

meetings to review what precautions should be taken at the auto race.

"I guess this will bring a new topic or dialogue to those

discussions, to see if there's anything more we need to do to prepare with respect to what's happened in Boston," Boles said. "And

we will learn more about that over the next couple of days, as the folks in Boston do, and we will be prepared for that." At the Kentucky Derby, which pulls in crowds approaching 250,000 each year at Churchill Downs Race-track, security was beefed up recently following the death of Osama bin Ladin. "We are always in close contact at this time of year with the dozens of federal, state and local law enforcement and public safety partners who work with us every year on safety and security concerns for our major events," Churchill Downs spokesman John Asher wrote in an email. "We will be in close and frequent contact with them and rely heavily on their expertise, as we always do, in the hours and days to come."

In Boston, Bruins President Cam Neely, a former player, said the hockey game's postponement was made after consulting city, state and league officials. He said authorities are still gathering information and "it is vital they have all resources available for their investigation."

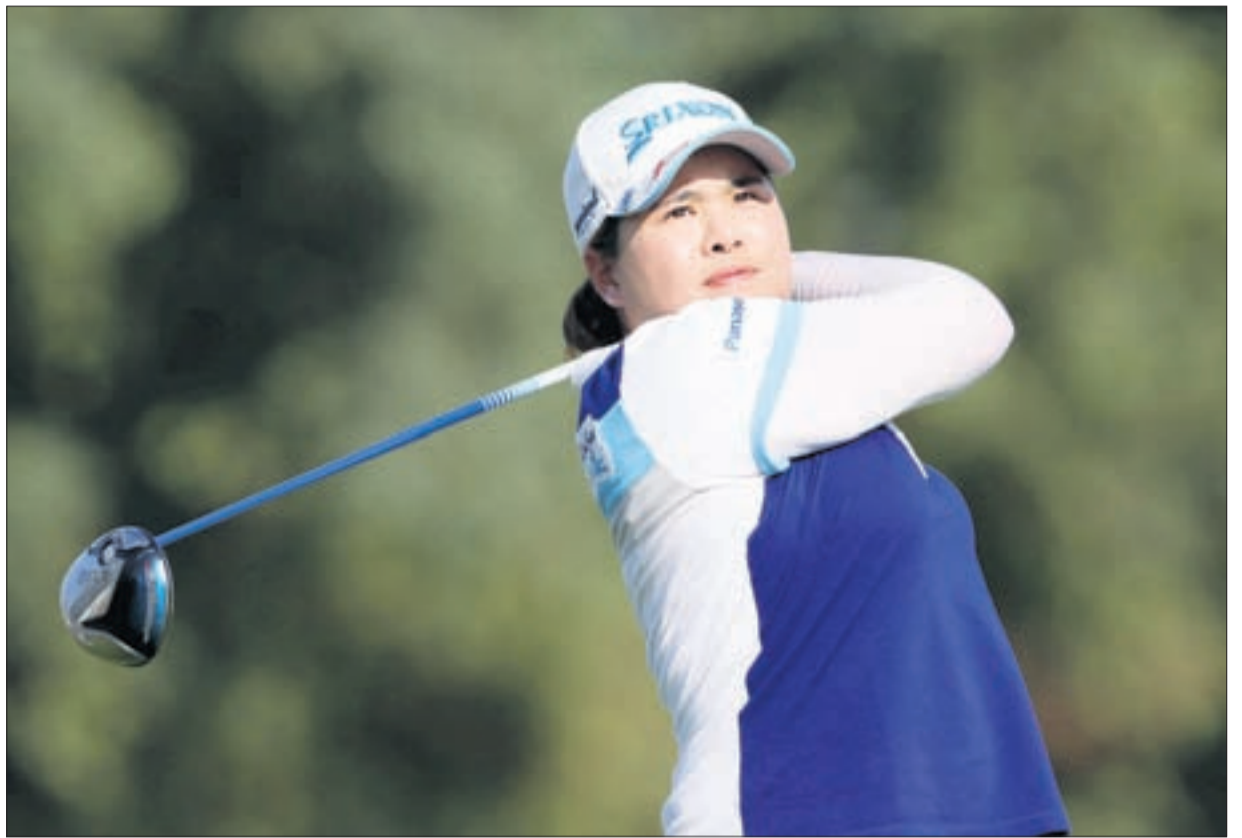
Fans arriving early for the Bruins' game were met by police who were in the area to secure the arena and a nearby federal building. One officer outside the players' parking lot was telling arriving spectators, "The game is canceled. We need you to exit the city safely and quickly."

Moments later, Bruins captain Zdeno Chara drove out of the lot, and not long after that the Senators' team bus left down a side ramp. □

Inbee Park jumps to No. 1 in women's golf ranking

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida (AP) — Inbee Park took over the top spot in the women's golf ranking Monday, ending Stacy Lewis' four-week run at No. 1. Park moved ahead of Lewis eight days after winning the Kraft Nabisco Championship for her second major title and second victory of the year. The 24-year-old South Korean player also won the LPGA Thailand in February. "This is a very big day in my golf career," Park said Monday at the LPGA Lotte Championship in Hawaii. "I'm so happy to share it with my family, who are here in Hawaii with me. It's nice to reach this goal, but I know a lot of players are close to No. 1. It gives me something else to play for every week." Lewis dropped to second, an average of 0.04 points per event behind Park in the two-year standings. Taiwan's Yani Tseng remained No. 3. She was No.

1 for 109 weeks before Lewis grabbed the top spot with consecutive victories in Singapore and Phoenix. Park is the eighth player and the second South Korean — following Jiyai Shin — to hold the No. 1 spot. Annika Sorenstam, Lorena Ochoa, Ai Miyazato and Cristie Kerr also have topped the ranking. Last year, Park won twice on the LPGA Tour, had six runner-up finishes, topped the money list and took the Vare Trophy for lowest scoring average. The putting star had a string of six straight top-three finishes. She won the Evian Masters in July in France, tied for third in her next start, added three straight



Inbee Park, of South Korea, watches her tee shot on the 16th hole during the final round of the LPGA Kraft Nabisco Championship golf tournament in Rancho Mirage, Calif. Sunday, April 7, 2013. Associated Press

second-place finishes and capped the run with a victory in October in the LPGA Malaysia.

Park won the 2008 U.S. Women's Open and has five career LPGA Tour victories. She also has won four

times on the Japan LPGA. The LPGA Lotte Championship begins Wednesday at Ko Olina in Kapolei. □

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NHL playoff push: Red Wings hope streak hits 22

LARRY LAGE
AP Hockey Writer

The Detroit Red Wings are doing everything they can to extend their postseason streak to 22 years, preparing diligently and playing hard, before turning to TVs and cellphones to watch the competition.

"I would be lying if I told you I didn't," Detroit goaltender Jimmy Howard acknowledged. "Of course we're going to watch and be looking at the standings and want to know what we have in front of us. It's in our own hands. It's up to us to go out there and get wins."

The Red Wings earned two points they desperately needed Sunday night with a 3-0 victory at Nashville, putting them in eighth place — at least for a day — in the Western Conference standings.

The streaking Dallas Stars, Columbus and Phoenix are all close enough to end Detroit's remarkable run. And things are exciting all over the NHL.

Only one team in each conference had been eliminated from playoff contention as of Monday morning, setting up a frenetic ending to this 48-game, lockout-shortened sprint of a season.

In the Eastern Conference, the New York Rangers and New York Islanders are try-



San Jose Sharks center Patrick Marleau (12) shoots past the defense of Detroit Red Wings goalie Jimmy Howard and scores during the shootout of an NHL hockey game in Detroit, Thursday, April 11, 2013. The Sharks won 3-2.

Associated Press

ing to hold on to the last two postseason spots. The Rangers trail the Islanders by a single point after a 1-0 overtime win Saturday night.

"I'm not even thinking about playoffs," Rangers coach John Tortorella insisted after the victory.

Islanders coach Jack Capuano, meanwhile, was a little more forthcoming about the point his team got with the loss in OT.

"It could be a big point as we move down the line," Capuano said.

The playoffs begin April 30

for 16 teams that will have a shot to hoist the Stanley Cup two months later. Last year, the Los Angeles Kings became the first team seeded eighth to win an NHL title.

The Islanders are shooting for their first playoff appearance since 2007, but the Rangers are right on their tails, Winnipeg is just three points behind and Buffalo is five back. New Jersey, Philadelphia, Tampa Bay and Carolina were mathematically still in the race.

Lightning coach Jon Cooper, though, said his team

has "no chance" to rally from nine points out with just six games remaining after winning only one of six games.

"Let's be realists," Cooper said.

Buffalo gave its team a realistic chance by beating two potential contenders — the Flyers and Lightning over the weekend — and with a schedule that includes three of its last five games are against the Rangers, Jets and Islanders.

"We are going to make this pretty interesting," Sabres center Kevin Porter said

Sunday after the 3-1 win over Tampa Bay.

Detroit easily has the NHL's longest active postseason streak, surpassing the second, third and fourth longest runs. San Jose has been to eight straight post-seasons, Pittsburgh six while Boston, Philadelphia and Washington are tied with five each.

The Red Wings are on the best postseason roll since the St. Louis Blues were in 25 straight from 1980-2004, and if they make it to 22 later this month, the franchise will break a tie with the 1948-69 Montreal Canadiens for the fifth-longest postseason run in NHL history.

The regular season ends April 27 with 13 games scheduled before the playoffs.

"I'm sure it's going to come down to the last day for us — and a lot of teams," Red Wings general manager Ken Holland said.

The Stars have certainly done their part to add intrigue to the race as well by winning five straight games going into Monday night's game on the road against the NHL-leading Chicago Blackhawks. Dallas has surged into contention, a week after it ranked among the worst teams in the West. □



NHL Capsules

Blackhawks win 5th straight to lead NHL with 68 points

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — ST. LOUIS (AP) — Corey Crawford stopped 30 shots and the Chicago Blackhawks got goals from Bryan Bickell and Marian Hossa for a 2-0 win over St. Louis on Sunday.

The Blackhawks lead the NHL with 68 points, and have won five in a row. They're 3-1 against the Blues, all with Crawford in net.

The Blues rarely tested Crawford until the third period and lost their second

straight in front of a standing room crowd of 19,385 that had a healthy contingent of Blackhawks fans. St. Louis has seven games remaining in the regular season, all but one at home. Bickell tapped in his own rebound on a rush early in the second period to end Blues goalie Brian Elliott's shut-out streak at 214 minutes. Hossa's short-handed goal off a faceoff win by Jonathan Toews was the crusher early in the third, coming 17 seconds after Duncan Keith was whistled for cross-

checking David Backes in front of the Chicago net.

SABRES 3, LIGHTNING 1

BUFFALO, New York (AP) — Jhonas Enroth stopped 32 shots and helped Buffalo keep up its late-season playoff push.

Tyler Ennis got his first goal in 12 games, and Jochen Hecht and Kevin Porter also scored for Buffalo (18-19-6), which took over sole possession of 10th place in the Eastern Conference — four points behind the eighth-place New York Rangers. □

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Reyes won't need surgery on ankle

TORONTO (AP) — Blue Jays shortstop Jose Reyes won't need surgery on his sprained left ankle, but is still expected to miss three months, general manager Alex Anthopoulos says. Reyes visited a specialist in Charlotte on Monday who confirmed the diagnosis of a severely sprained ankle. Reyes was injured sliding into second base in Friday's game at Kansas City. He was placed on the 15-day disabled list Saturday. Anthopoulos says Reyes

will be in a cast for two weeks and then in a walking boot for an additional two weeks, meaning he won't be ready to begin rehab activity for at least a month. Acquired from Miami in a 12-player trade last November, the four-time All-Star is batting .395 with one homer and five RBIs. Blue Jays slugger Jose Bautista was held out of the starting lineup for Monday's game against the White Sox because of a

sore back. Normally an outfielder, Bautista has been playing third base since Reyes was injured, but is expected to return to right field when he plays again. Also Monday, the Blue Jays promoted right-hander Ramon Ortiz from Triple-A Buffalo and designated outfielder Casper Wells for assignment. An 11-year veteran, Ortiz has a career record of 86-84 and ERA of 4.93 in 296 games with seven teams. □



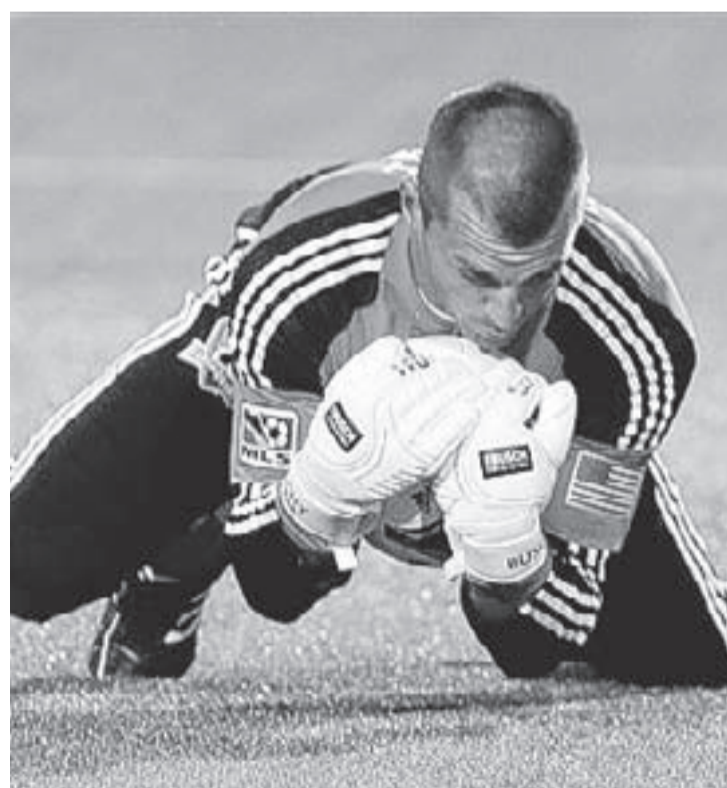
Toronto Blue Jays Jose Reyes, who twisted his left ankle during a Friday game, watches from the dugout during the second inning of a baseball game against the Kansas City Royals at Kauffman Stadium in Kansas City, Mo., Saturday, April 13, 2013.

Associated Press

Dynamo beats Fire 2-1, sets MLS record

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston Dynamo set a Major League Soccer record for the longest home unbeaten streak in all competitions with a 2-1 victory over the Chicago Fire on Sunday. Houston has not lost a home game across all competitions in 35 matches, beating the previous mark set by Real Salt Lake from 2009-11. "The streak means a lot," said Brad Davis, who scored one of Dynamo's goals and played a key role in the other. "You always want to defend your home turf, and every other team will say the same thing. But we take a lot of pride in this and playing here." Davis scored the winner in the 81st minute with a shot from 25 yards. He was

involved in the opening goal, providing the cross for Will Bruin's header in the 26th. "We have won and tied games in all different fashions," Houston coach Dominic Kinnear said. "And the one thing that I never question is the team's attitude or their desire to try." In other Sunday matches, Will Johnston's curling free kick in the 78th minute helped Portland to a 1-0 win over San Jose and Montreal held the Columbus Crew to a 1-1 draw. Montreal's Marco Di Vaio and the Crew's Domenic Odoro traded goals 4 minutes apart in the second half in the Montreal match that had been delayed a day by a snowstorm. There was some controversy in the close match



San Jose Earthquakes goalie Jon Busch stops a shot during the first half of an MLS soccer match against the Portland Timbers in Portland, Ore., Sunday, April 14, 2013.

Associated Press

at Portland, with San Jose forward Alan Gordon sent off after earning a second yellow card in the 68th minute, not long after appearing to use a slur directed against Johnson before the deciding goal. "I think it's probably better that I don't comment on that," Johnson said about Gordon's comment. "It's a very sensitive matter. I'd prefer the league go through with their protocol." Gordon was escorted from the locker room after the game by team personnel and did not speak with reporters. He later released a statement via the club. "I would like to sincerely apologize to everyone who watched tonight's match on NBC Sports Network. □



Spain's Rafael Nadal waits for a TV interview at the Monte Carlo Tennis Masters tournament in Monaco, Monday, April 15, 2013. Associated Press

French Open prize money up by 3.3 million euros

PARIS (AP) — Prize money at the French Open will rise significantly for both singles champions and players who lose in some of the early rounds. Roland Garros organizers said Monday that the overall total for the tournament will go from 18.7 million euros (\$24.6 million) last year to 22 million euros (\$28.7 million), with winners receiving 1.5 million euros (\$1.96 million) compared to 1.25 million euros (\$1.64 million) in 2012. Players eliminated in the second, third and fourth rounds will receive 25 percent more than they did last year. The tournament begins May 26. French Tennis Federation director Gilbert Ysern says his organization "wishes to maintain its effort with regards to players eliminated during the first week." Further increases totaling another 10 million euros (\$13.08 million) are expected by 2016. □



Cilic and Raonic reach Monte Carlo 2nd round



Canada's Milos Raonic prepares to return the ball to Julien Benneteau of France during their match of the Monte Carlo Tennis Masters tournament in Monaco, Monday, April 15, 2013. Associated Press

JEROME PUGMRE AP Sports Writer

MONACO (AP) — Ninth-seeded Marin Cilic overcame a shaky serving performance to beat Horacio Zeballos of Argentina 6-2, 6-7 (6), 6-2 in the first round of the Monte Carlo Masters on Monday. Cilic looked set for an easier win after converting all three of his break points in the first set, before both players dropped serve three times in the second set. Cilic stepped it up in the third, hitting three aces and breaking Zeballos' serve twice. He next plays either Jerzy Janowicz of Poland or South African Kevin Anderson in the second round. They play their match on Tuesday. Earlier, 12th-seeded Milos Raonic beat Julien Benneteau 6-1, 6-4 and Roberto Bautista Agut upset No. 11 Gilles Simon of France 6-3, 7-6 (6). Raonic served 15 aces and broke his French opponent three times to set up a match against Jarkko Nieminen, who thrashed Viktor Troicki 6-1, 6-2. "A lot of things I did well, especially only having a limited amount of preparation before here," said the 22-year-old Raonic, who

improved to 14-4 this season, and hit one booming second serve ace clocked at 201 kilometers-per-hour (124.6 miles-per-hour). Raonic lost his only match against Nieminen in the quarterfinals of the Thailand Open in Bangkok last September. "I didn't do so well, did a lot of things poorly in that situation," Raonic said. "If I play and I keep going for it like I was today — I was able to dictate play a bit — I think if I can get ahead in the points, I can keep that advantage and I think I'm pretty good in that position." Bautista Agut was pushed a little harder, closing it out on his fifth match point when Simon hit a forehand into the net. The Spaniard will play either Florian Mayer or Benjamin Balleret. "I didn't produce anything during that first set. In fact, I was tired. Long rallies were killing me," Simon said. "In every game I was giving him a couple of free points, which hurts a lot on clay because from his side there were not many free points." It was Simon's fourth straight defeat after losing to Tommy Haas in the Sony Open quarterfinals and both singles matches in France's

Davis Cup quarterfinal loss to Argentina. Fabio Fognini came from behind to down 15th-seeded Andreas Seppi 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 in an all-Italian match after converting seven of 10 breakpoint chances. He faces either Radek Stepanek or qualifier Albert Ramos. In other first-round matches, there were wins for Nikolay Davydenko, qualifier Pablo Andujar and French pair Benoit Paire and Edouard Roger-Vasselin. Davydenko beat qualifier Daniel Brands 6-3, 6-4; An-

dujar scraped past Jeremy Chardy 6-7 (4), 7-5, 6-2; Paire won 6-4, 6-4 against Ivan Dodig, and Roger-Vasselin topped Robin Haase 6-3, 6-2. Top-seeded Novak Djokovic will decide Tuesday whether he's recovered from his ankle problem to play Mikhail Youzhny of Russia on Wednesday, when No. 2 Andy Murray takes on Roger-Vasselin and eight-time defending champion Rafael Nadal faces either 2010 finalist Fernando Verdasco of Spain or Australian Marinko Matosevic. □

8-team preseason tournament to be held in U.S.

MIAMI (AP) — An international preseason tournament featuring some of the world's most famous teams will be held in the United States this summer, with the final four games to be played in Miami on Aug. 6-7. At least half of the eight-team field will be announced Tuesday at a news conference at the Miami Dolphins' stadium, where the championship and consolation rounds are scheduled. Organizers plan for the tournament to become an annual event, although sites may change. Multiyear deals have been signed with some teams and a title sponsor. Network TV coverage is planned this year in 151 countries. The tournament will begin with a game in Europe on July 27. Other opening-round games are planned in Phoenix, San Francisco and Indianapolis, with the semifinals in New York and Los Angeles on Aug. 3-4. □

Dish Network offering to buy Sprint in \$25.5B deal

PETER SVENSSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Dish Network Corp. is trying to snag U.S. wireless carrier Sprint Nextel away from Japan's Softbank Corp., the latest sign that satellite dishes are losing their relevance in the age of cellphones that play everything from YouTube videos to live TV. Dish offered \$25.5 billion in cash and stock on Monday for Sprint, which Dish says beats the Japanese offer.

If the Dish deal goes through, it would create a unique combination of pay-TV and wireless operator. Dish's hope is that it would lure customers with the promise of a TV service that they can take with them out of the house, on their phones. It has already broken ranks with the pay-TV industry by providing a set-top box that can send recorded shows to iPads.

"You want to be in your home with video, broadband, and data, and you want to be outside your home with those same things," said Charlie Ergen, Dish's executive chairman. "And while the cable industry does a really good job in your home, and the current wireless industry does a really good job outside your home, there's really no one company on a national scale that puts it all together. The new Dish-Sprint will do that."

Sprint Nextel Corp.'s stock jumped on the news, as investors anticipated a bidding war between Dish and Softbank. Sprint had accepted the Softbank offer and was expecting to close on it this summer. Sprint, the country's third-largest cellphone carrier, said it would evaluate Dish's offer.

For years, Dish has been able to grow rapidly by luring cable TV subscribers with better deals. But its subscriber numbers have been flat for the past three years. Unlike TV cables, satellite dishes aren't good conduits for Internet access. That means that Dish and larger rival DirecTV

have been left behind in the rush to connect homes to broadband, while cable has been able to retain customers by offering TV, Internet and phone bundles.

Ergen has been looking for a way into the wireless world to counter that. Dish has been buying space on the airwaves, so-called spectrum rights, for cellphone service or wireless broadband. But the Englewood, Colorado, company has been repeatedly rebuffed in its efforts to partner with cellphone companies to put its spectrum to use.

"People have generally blown him off and not taken him seriously," technology consultant Tim Farrar said. "This is really saying 'We are serious.'"

The latest bid comes amid a ferment of deal-making in the wireless world. The two largest carriers, Verizon Wireless and AT&T Inc., are trying to bolster their spectrum holdings, while the next largest, Sprint and T-Mobile USA, are trying to make alliances to better compete after years of seeing their subscribers move to the bigger players. T-Mobile USA has struck a deal to merge with No. 5 MetroPCS Communications Inc., and Sprint's deal with Softbank would give Sprint a much-needed cash infusion. On a conference call Monday, Ergen said that Dish is a better fit for Sprint because it can combine its spectrum rights with Sprint's. Dish can also use its army of satellite dish technicians to install antennas for wireless broadband on customer's roofs, creating a competitor to cable and phone-line broadband. It could also save money by combining its call centers and back-end functions with those of Sprint. Dish has 14.1 million TV subscribers, making it the No. 2 satellite-TV company after DirecTV. Comcast Corp. is larger than both and is the nation's largest subscription-TV provider. Sprint, which is based in Overland Park, Kansas, has 55.6 million



Three Dish Network satellite dishes are shown at an apartment complex in Palo Alto, Calif., in this Feb. 23, 2011 file photo. Associated Press

wireless devices on its network. Dish said that its proposed transaction includes \$17.3 billion in cash and \$8.2 billion in stock, leaving Sprint shareholders with 32 percent of the combined Dish-Sprint. Dish put the total worth of the offer at \$7 per Sprint share, which is a 13 percent premium to its Friday closing price of \$6.22.

Softbank is offering \$20.1 billion in cash, and shareholders get to keep 30 percent of Sprint.

Shares of Sprint rose 84 cents, or 14 percent, to close Monday at \$7.06. Because that's above Dish's offer, it indicates that investors are expecting a sweetened bid from Softbank or Dish. Dish shares fell 86 cents, or 2.3 percent, to \$36.77, as the broader market retreated and investors figured that to own a piece of the combined company, it would be cheaper to buy Sprint shares instead.

The fight over Sprint pits two high-stakes gamblers against each other. Masayoshi Son, the CEO of Softbank, is a famously aggressive deal maker. Dish's Ergen is a former professional poker player and the engineer of risky deals such as the acquisition of the Blockbuster video-store chain. "It appears to us that Sprint is in a solid po-

sition from a negotiating standpoint," Stifel Nicolaus analyst Christopher King wrote in a research note. He said Softbank could comfortably raise its bid. Dish isn't as strong as Softbank financially, but King said Dish is a "strategically desperate" bidder and might be forced to raise its offer, as it needs Sprint to gain a foothold in wireless. Sprint might not be Dish's last chance, however. Farrar said that if Dish is outbid by Softbank, an alternative might be to buy T-Mobile USA instead.

Cable companies, Dish's chief competitors, have also repeatedly sought an entry into the wireless world but have largely abandoned those efforts, daunted by the high cost of setting up a network. Instead, some of the largest ones have partnered with Verizon Wireless to co-market wireless and cable-TV service. Because cable modems are the most popular way to connect a home to the Internet, cable companies are also able to capitalize on the popularity of the Internet in a way satellite companies can't.

Ergen said during the conference call that Dish believed that Softbank undervalued Sprint. Although he would not say whether Dish would raise its bid for Sprint

if Softbank came back with a higher offer, he said that Dish would be more than will to pay the \$600 million breakup fee for Sprint and Softbank to terminate their proposed transaction.

Another component of the Sprint purchase is wireless network operator Clearwire. In December, Sprint agreed to buy the portion of Clearwire it didn't own for \$2.2 billion.

That deal would give Sprint control of an affiliate it depends upon to provide high-speed "Sprint 4G" data services on some of its phones. The Clearwire deal is contingent on the Softbank deal going through, as Sprint lacks the money to complete it on its own. Dish made its own bid of about \$5.15 billion for Clearwire in January. Ergen said that Dish has not formally withdrawn its Clearwire offer and that its Sprint buyout bid is not contingent on Clearwire going through with the Sprint offer.

Further complicating the picture, Clearwire revealed Friday that it has received an offer of \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion for some of its spectrum rights from an unnamed company.

The Wall Street Journal on Monday identified the prospective buyer as Verizon Wireless. Verizon declined to comment. □



Kodak selling document imaging assets for \$210M

ROCHESTER, New York (AP) — Kodak has agreed to sell some of its document imaging assets to Brother Industries Ltd. for about \$210 million, its latest deal as it seeks to exit bankruptcy protection.

Japan-based Brother also would assume the business' deferred service revenue liability, which totaled about \$67 million as of Dec. 31, the companies said Monday.

Kodak's document imaging business provides scanners, capture software and related services. Brother makes laser, label and multi-function printers, along with fax machines and sewing machines.

Eastman Kodak Co. filed for bankruptcy protection in January 2012. It has said it hopes to emerge from court protection this summer.

The Rochester, New York, company said Monday that the document-imaging assets sale is another key step on its path to emerging from bankruptcy protection. It's the latest deal for Kodak, which in December announced the sale of its digital imaging patents for \$525 million. It has also sold off its online photo service and said it would shut down other divisions, including the manufacturing of digital cameras, as it intends to focus on commercial and packaging printing.

The document-imaging assets deal remains subject to bankruptcy court approval, along with possible competing bids. Kodak said it plans to ask for court approval at a hearing later this month and hopes to receive final approval in June. □

Carnival says it will pay U.S. for disabled ships



In this Feb. 14, 2013 file photo the cruise ship Carnival Triumph is towed into Mobile Bay near Dauphin Island, Ala. The Triumph, which has been docked in Alabama since an engine room fire left it disabled for days in the Gulf of Mexico, broke away from its mooring in a Mobile, Ala. shipyard on Wednesday, April 3, 2013. The U.S. Coast Guard tweeted Wednesday afternoon that high winds were likely to blame.

CURT ANDERSON
AP Legal Affairs Writer

MIAMI (AP) — Carnival Corp. said Monday it will repay the U.S. government an unspecified amount for the costs to taxpayers of responses to disabling accidents on its Triumph and Splendor cruise ships, both of which left thousands of passengers stranded at sea for days.

The world's largest cruise line company said the payments were being made voluntarily to the U.S. Treasury Department and that no government agency had requested reimbursement for either accident. But Carnival had come under pressure from U.S. Sen. Jay Rockefeller, who was highly critical last week of Carnival's indirect responses to his inquiries about its willingness to pay.

Rockefeller, chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, estimated the Coast Guard's costs in dealing with the crippled Triumph earlier this year at nearly \$780,000. The 2010 engine fire that left the Splendor adrift off of Mexico, he said, cost the Coast Guard and Navy about \$3.4 million. The Navy work in that case included delivering food from the aircraft

carrier USS Ronald Reagan. In both cases, passengers were left in uncomfortable and even squalid conditions before the ships made it back to port.

Carnival's statement did not say if it would pay those amounts or something else. But the company insisted that it never flatly rejected the idea of reimbursement. "It should be clearly noted that at no point in time has Carnival stated that it would refuse to reimburse federal agencies if they sought remuneration," the company statement said.

Last week, in response to written questions from Rockefeller about repaying the costs, Carnival released letters responding to the senator stating that its policy in such situations is to "honor maritime tradition" requiring assistance to those in need at sea from all maritime interests. Carnival also said in those letters that it frequently participates in rescues at Coast Guard request and strongly defended its safety record. Rockefeller had labeled that initial response as "shameful" and indicated then that he might hold hearings or propose legislation.

"I'm glad to see that Carni-

val owned up to the bare minimum of corporate responsibility by reimbursing federal taxpayers for these two incidents," Rockefeller said in a statement Monday. "I am still committed to making sure the cruise industry as a whole pays its fair share in taxes, complies with strict safety standards, and holds the safety of its passengers above profits." The 900-foot (274-meter) Triumph was disabled during a February cruise by an engine room fire in the Gulf of Mexico, leaving thousands of passengers to endure cold food, unsanitary conditions and power outages while the ship was towed to Mobile, Ala. It is still undergoing repairs there. The 952-foot (290-meter) Splendor was also hobbled by an engine fire in January 2010, leaving its thousands of passengers to endure similar difficult conditions for three days in the Pacific Ocean while it was towed to San Diego. The Splendor is now back in service and cruises out of New York, according to Carnival's web site. In both cases, Carnival gave passengers refunds, free cruise vouchers and other forms of reimbursement. □

Tobacco cos. make payments under state settlement

MICHAEL FELBERBAUM
AP Tobacco Writer

RICHMOND, Virginia (AP) — The top U.S. cigarette companies have made their payments as part of the longstanding settlement in which some cigarette makers are paying states for smoking-related health care costs.

Philip Morris USA, America's largest cigarette maker owned by Altria Group Inc., said Monday that it made its full annual payment of about \$3.1 billion as part of the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement.

The Richmond-based maker of Marlboro, Virginia Slims and Parliament cigarettes said the payment includes about \$203 million that it says it doesn't owe that was deposited into a separate account and will try to get back through negotiations or arbitration.

No. 2 R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., owned by Reynolds American Inc., based in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, paid \$1.84 billion this year. The maker of Camel, Pall Mall, Kool and other brands deposited a portion it disputes — \$461 million — into a separate account, as allowed under the settlement.

No. 3 Lorillard Inc., Greensboro, North Carolina-based maker of Newport, True and Maverick brand cigarettes, paid \$900 million this year, including \$115 million it disputes.

Philip Morris USA said it has paid more than \$62 billion under the settlement and previous agreements since 1997. RJR has paid more than \$30 billion under the agreements, and Lorillard has paid about \$15 billion. As part of the landmark settlement to reimburse states for smoking-related health care costs, participating tobacco product manufacturers agreed to make billions in payments to 46 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the District of Columbia over more than two decades. □

Falling commodities give Dow worst day of the year

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Worries about an economic slowdown in China fueled a steep drop in commodity prices Monday, spooking investors and giving the stock market its worst day of the year.

The trigger for the sell-off came from China, where the world's second-largest economy expanded 7.7 percent in the first three months of the year, well below forecasts of 8 percent or better. That news pummeled copper, oil and other commodities. Shares of oil and mining companies fared the worst because China is a huge importer of their products.

The decline came after a pile of negative economic reports. In addition to the concerns about China, a separate report showed weak manufacturing in the Northeast, and a home builders' survey indicated housing activity isn't going to be strong, either, said Steven Ricchiuto, chief economist for Mizuho Securities.

"People are realizing that the global economy isn't as strong as they expected it to be," he said.

The market began tumbling hours before reports emerged of two bombs exploding in the packed streets near the finish line of the Boston Marathon. The attack that killed two people and injured more than 100 was just one more thing to worry investors.

The pullback disrupted, at least for the moment, the phenomenal rally that has sent the Dow Jones indus-



In this Friday, April 12, 2013, photo Trader Lewis Vande Pallen, right, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. World stock markets mostly sank Monday April 15, 2013 as China's slower-than-expected economic growth and disappointing U.S. retail sales weighed on investor sentiment. Associated Press

trial average up 13 percent and the Standard & Poor's 500 index up 11 percent in 2013. Both indexes marked record highs only last Wednesday. But the market's exceptional performance has fueled widespread speculation about an inevitable retreat.

Concerns that Cyprus and other troubled European countries may sell gold to raise cash have also weighed on prices for precious metals, said Dan Greenhaus, chief global strategist at the brokerage BTIG.

The Dow tumbled 265.86 points to close at 14,599.20, a decline of 1.8 percent. Caterpillar, a maker of heavy equipment used by miners, led the index lower, falling 3 percent to \$82.27. The S&P 500 index slumped

36.48 points to 1,552.37, a loss of 2.3 percent.

The S&P was led by Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, which fell 8 percent to \$29.27. Analysts at Citigroup placed a "sell" rating on the mining giant on the expectation that copper prices will continue sliding.

The Nasdaq composite fell 78.46 points, or 2.4 percent, to 3,216.49.

It was the biggest drop for the stock market since Nov. 7 — Election Day — last year.

Of the 10 industry groups in the S&P 500, materials and energy stocks fared the worst, losing 4 percent. Indexes of small companies and transportation stocks, which are more vulnerable to swings in the economy, also fell 4 percent.

Crude oil prices hit their lowest level since mid-December, sliding \$2.58 to finish at \$88.71 in New York trading. And gold fell \$140, plunging below \$1,400 an ounce for the first time in two years as a sell-off in metals continued from last week. Gold has now slumped \$203 an ounce over the past two days.

Frank Fantozzi, CEO of Planned Financial Services, a wealth management firm, says people had bought gold since the financial crisis on the belief that it was safe place to keep money. "I think you're getting some panic selling right now" in the gold market, Fantozzi said. "People who have been holding on to gold expecting a rebound are now thinking, 'I better get out.'" Cetin Ciner, a finance professor and expert in precious metal markets at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, said gold had also offered a protection against rampant inflation when the economy recovered. That helped push gold prices as high as \$1,900 in 2011, but the high inflation they worried about still hasn't hit.

Gold "was bound to collapse at some stage," Ciner said. "People were waiting and waiting for higher infla-

tion, and they finally realized it's not happening."

Just seven stocks rose in the S&P 500. Among them, Citigroup inched up 9 cents to \$45.87, after the country's third-largest bank reported earnings that beat analysts' estimates. Stronger revenue from trading and investment banking lifted the bank's results.

Sprint Nextel jumped after Dish Network offered \$25 billion to buy the company. Dish's bid is aimed at beating an offer from the Japanese phone company SoftBank. Sprint surged 14 percent to \$7.06, and Dish fell 2 percent to \$36.77.

Thermo Fisher Scientific offered \$13.6 billion to buy genetic testing equipment maker Life Technologies. That works out to \$76 in cash for each share of Life Technologies.

Thermo Fisher's stock fell 1 percent to \$78.58, while Life Technologies rose 7 percent to \$73.11.

In the market for U.S. government bonds, which traders often buy when they're concerned about the economy, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note retreated to 1.69 percent, its lowest level of the year. That's down from 1.72 percent late Friday.

But for all the alarm among investors, experts doubt that the drop in stock prices is a harbinger of another global recession. Deep government budget cuts have slowed the U.S. economy and kept Europe in recession. And China's economy is cooling. But economists still expect the U.S. economy — the world's biggest — to gain strength during the second half of the year.

Nearly four years after the Great Recession ended, the American economy has a stronger foundation. Rising home prices and near-record stock prices make consumers feel wealthier and more willing to spend. And although China's growth was below expectations, it was still a pace that would be considered strong anywhere else. □

NY judge OKs \$405M payout to some Madoff victims

NEW YORK (AP) — A U.S. federal judge has cleared the way for investors who lost \$1.2 billion to Wall Street swindler Bernard Madoff's Ponzi scheme to receive \$405 million in payouts.

New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman says the judge rejected Madoff

trustee Irving Picard's challenge to the settlement his office arranged last year with J. Ezra Merkin. Merkin ran a "feeder fund" that channeled money from four investment companies to Madoff.

Hundreds of investors had put their money into Ariel

Fund Ltd., Gabriel Capital L.P., Ascot Fund Ltd. and Ascot Partners L.P.

Merkin will also pay New York state \$5 million for the expense of recovering the money. Many eligible investors will be entitled to get more than 40 percent of their cash losses. □

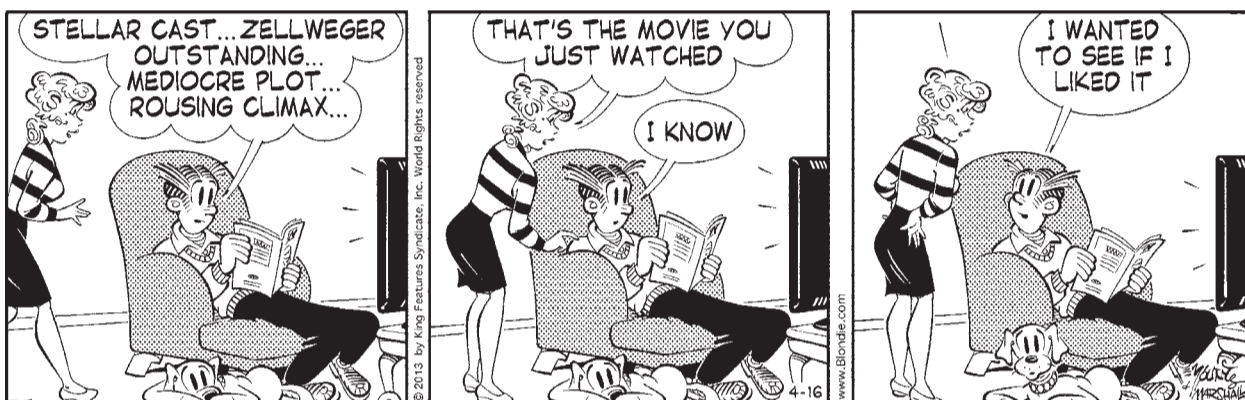
Mutts



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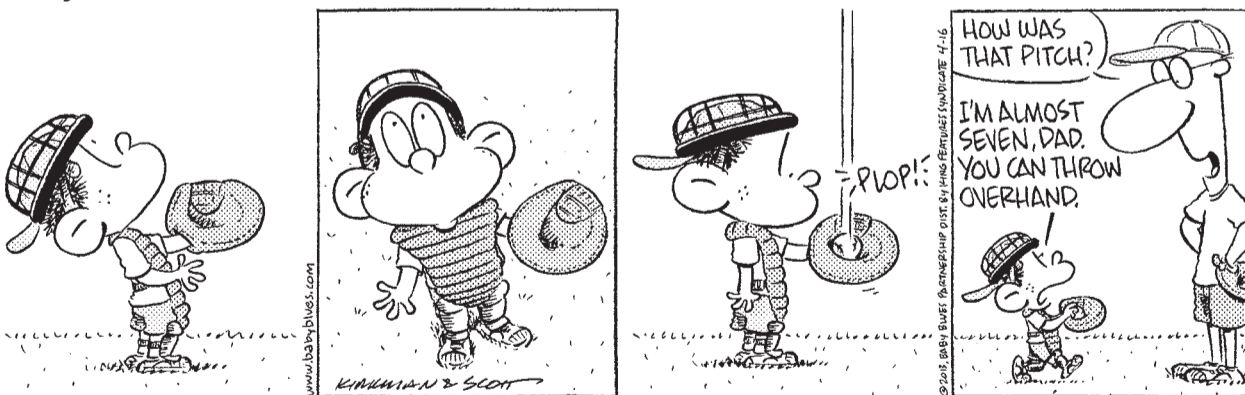
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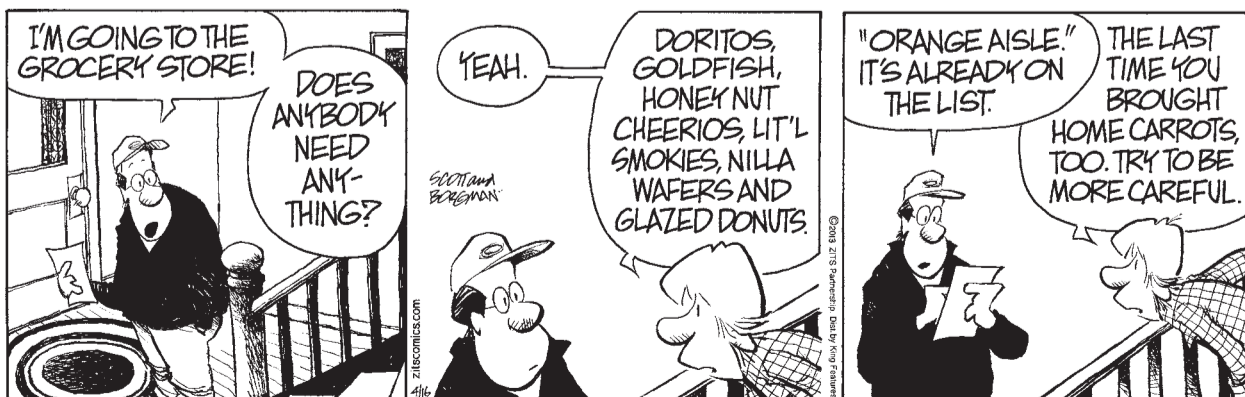
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

8		6	3			7		
		4	9	5	1	8		
2	5					9		4
	8		2			6		
3	9					7		8
		1	3	7	8	4		
6		4	2					3

Difficulty Level ★★

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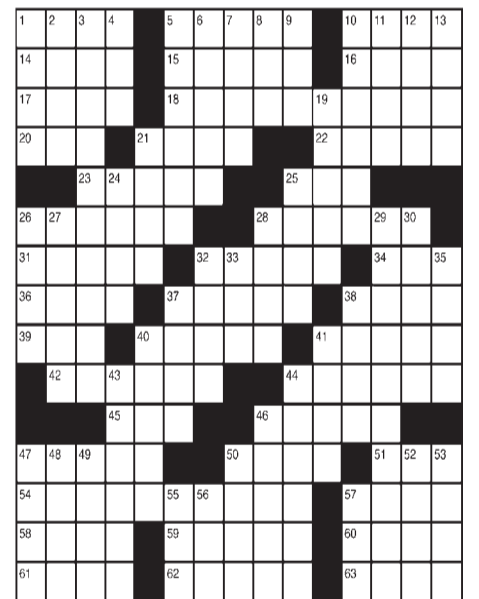
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

9	4	7	3	1	8	6	2	5
2	8	6	5	7	9	4	1	3
1	5	3	4	2	6	9	7	8
8	6	5	7	9	3	1	4	2
4	1	2	6	8	5	3	9	7
3	7	9	1	4	2	5	8	6
6	2	1	8	5	4	7	3	9
5	9	4	2	3	7	8	6	1
7	3	8	9	6	1	2	5	4

ACROSS

- 1 Tiny leaping insect
- 5 Calm, as someone's fears
- 10 Freeway exit
- 14 Lion's cry
- 15 Find a new purpose for
- 16 At any time
- 17 Meanie
- 18 ___ cherry; piña colada garnish
- 20 TV's "___ Smart"
- 21 Phony
- 22 Alan & Cheryl
- 23 Laurel's partner
- 25 "Jeremiah ___ a bullfrog..."
- 26 Rocky ___; role for Stallone
- 28 Chess piece
- 31 Hatred
- 32 Garbage
- 34 Hive buzzer
- 36 Talk wildly
- 37 Investigate
- 38 Stage drama
- 39 Has ___ on one's face; is embarrassed
- 40 Haughtiness
- 41 Fruit drink
- 42 Respect highly
- 44 Was out of breath
- 45 Snoop Dogg's music style
- 46 Actress Delta
- 47 Entertainer Paula ___
- 50 Knights' titles
- 51 Big ___; semi
- 54 Comforting
- 57 Gilbert or Rue
- 58 Is unable to
- 59 Scorch
- 60 Perched upon
- 61 Colors
- 62 Rims
- 63 Autry or Wilder



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 4/16/13

Monday's Puzzle Solved

J	O	Y	O	R	D	E	R	C	H	O	P		
E	W	E	S	P	E	E	V	E	O	A	H		
B	E	A	T	I	S	L	E	S	B	L	I	P	
D	R	A	M	A	T	I	S	T	W	O	O	S	
R	A	T	S	A	P	E							
A	D	M	I	R	E	D	A	T	A	B	A	S	E
C	R	A	N	K	T	O	W	E	L	M	A	R	
R	I	N	G	P	O	S	E	D	P	O	L	O	
E	L	I	S	E	W	E	D	B	L	U	E	S	
S	L	A	C	K	E	N	S	C	O	A	R	S	
A	I	R	T	A	L	C							
S	L	O	B	L	E	G	E	N	D	A	R	Y	
T	A	X	I	E	V	E	N	T	R	E	E	D	
O	V	E	N	S	E	N	S	E	D	D	A	Y	
P	A	N	S	S	N	E	E	R	S	H	E		

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DOWN

- 1 Kermitt the ___
- 2 Theater box
- 3 Humans, to a Martian

- 4 "My lips ___ sealed"
- 5 Fleet of ships
- 6 Like a dripping hose tap
- 7 Attract; entice
- 8 Skinny ___ rail
- 9 Affirmative
- 10 Discuss again
- 11 Eager
- 12 Repair
- 13 ___ and cons
- 19 Come into conflict
- 21 ___ now on; henceforth
- 24 Border on
- 25 Intelligent
- 26 Drill a hole
- 27 Saying
- 28 Baseball's Ruth
- 29 Wipe out
- 30 Tranquility
- 32 Cut off the edges of
- 33 Slender stick
- 35 Observed
- 37 Get ready, for short
- 38 Young hoodlum
- 40 Rings out
- 41 Jolts
- 43 Has faith in
- 44 Cleanses; frees from defilement
- 46 Pig out
- 47 Part of the foot
- 48 Actor Bridges
- 49 Copenhagen resident
- 50 Warble
- 52 Steel, basically
- 53 Stare
- 55 ___ up; spend
- 56 Get ___ of; shed
- 57 Hang limply

Hawaii land board approves Thirty Meter Telescope

AUDREY McAVOY
Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — A plan by California and Canadian universities to build the world's largest telescope at the summit of Hawaii's Mauna Kea volcano won approval from the state Board of Land and Natural Resources on Friday.

The decision clears the way for the group managing the Thirty Meter Telescope project to negotiate a sublease for land with the University of Hawaii.

The telescope would be able to observe planets that orbit stars other than the sun and enable astronomers to watch new planets and stars being formed. It should also help scientists see some 13 billion light years away for a glimpse into the early years of the universe.

Construction costs are expected to top \$1 billion.

The telescope's segmented primary mirror, which is nearly 100 feet (30 meters) long, will give it nine times the collecting area of the largest optical telescopes in use today. Its images will also be three times sharper. But the telescope may not hold the world's largest title for long. A group of European countries plans to build the European Extremely Large Telescope, which will have a 138-foot (42-meter)-long mirror.

Some Native Hawaiian groups had petitioned against the project, arguing it would defile the mountain's sacred summit. Native Hawaiian tradition holds that high altitudes are sacred and are a gateway to heaven. In the past, only high chiefs and priests were allowed at Mauna Kea's summit. The mountain is home to one confirmed burial site and perhaps four more.

Environmentalists also petitioned to stop the telescope on the grounds it would harm habitat for the rare wekiu bug.

The board approved the project anyway, but imposed two dozen condi-



This undated photo provided by environmental law firm Earthjustice shows the endangered palila bird, a native bird found only in certain parts of Hawaii's Mauna Kea. A federal court ruling on April 8, 2013 allows the state to continue aerial hunting of feral sheep and goats in an effort to protect the forest where the birds live. A Hawaii County ordinance bans aerial hunting, but the state must still comply with a previous order to eradicate the animals for the bird's survival.

Associated Press

tions including a requirement that employees be trained in culture and natural resources.

The University of California system, the California Institute of Technology and the Association of Canadian Universities for Research in Astronomy are spearhead-

ing the telescope. China, India and Japan have signed on to be partners.

The University of Hawaii is involved because it leases the summit land from the state of Hawaii.

Mauna Kea's peak already hosts about a dozen telescopes.

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STOP
Violence Against Women

Greenhouse gases make high temps hotter in China

WASHINGTON (AP) — China, the world's largest producer of carbon dioxide, is directly feeling the man-made heat of global warming, scientists conclude in the first study to link the burning of fossil fuels to one country's rise in its daily temperature spikes.

China emits more of the greenhouse gas than the next two biggest carbon polluters — the U.S. and India — combined. And its emissions keep soaring by about 10 percent per year. While other studies have linked averaged-out temperature increases in China and other countries to greenhouse gases, this research is the first to link the warmer daily hottest and coldest readings, or spikes. Those spikes, which often occur in late afternoon and the early morning, are what scientists say most affect people's health, plants and animals. People don't notice changes in averages, but they feel it when the daily high is hotter or when it doesn't cool off at night to let them recover from a sweltering day.

The study by Chinese and Canadian researchers found that just because of greenhouse gases, daytime highs rose 0.9 degree Celsius (1.7 degrees Fahrenheit) in the 46 years up to 2007. At night it was even worse: Because of greenhouse gases, the daily lows went up about 1.7 degrees Celsius (3 degrees Fahrenheit).

China is the world's biggest producer and consumer of coal, which is the largest source of man-made carbon dioxide emissions. While the country has made huge investments in alternative energy such as wind, solar and nuclear in



Associated Press writer Louise Watt in Beijing contributed to this report.

recent years, its heavy reliance on coal is unlikely to change any time soon.

About 90 percent of the temperature rise seen by the researchers could be traced directly to man-made greenhouse gases, the study said. Man-made greenhouse gases also include methane and nitrous oxide, but carbon dioxide is considered by far the biggest factor.

The study appeared online in late March in the peer-reviewed journal *Geophysical Research Letters*.

The study uses the accepted and traditional method that climate scientists employ to attribute a specific trend to man-made global warming or to rule it out as a cause.

Researchers ran computer simulations trying to replicate the observed increase in daily and nighttime high temperatures in China between 1961 and 2007. They first plugged in only natural forces — in-

cluding solar variation — to try to get the heat increase. That didn't produce it.

The only way the computer simulations came up with the increase in daily high and low temperatures that occurred was when the actual amounts of atmospheric heat-trapping greenhouse gases were included.

"It is way above what you would expect from normal fluctuations of climate," study author Xuebin Zhang of the climate research division of Canada's envi-

ronmental agency said in a telephone interview. "It is quite clear and can be attributed to greenhouse gases." China did not become the largest emitter of greenhouse gases until 2007; for much of the period studied, it had a smaller economy. Because carbon dioxide stays in the atmosphere for about a century, China and its defenders maintain that the U.S. and other developed nations bear more responsibility for climate change. Outside experts praised

the research as using proper methods and making sense. An earlier study didn't formally blame the proliferation of U.S. heat records to a rise in greenhouse gases but noted that they were increasing substantially with carbon dioxide pollution.

"The study is important because it formalizes what many scientists have been sensing as a gut instinct: that the increase in extreme heat that we've witnessed in recent decades, and especially in recent years, really cannot be dismissed as the vagaries of weather," said Pennsylvania State University climate scientist Michael Mann.

China has rapidly grown from a nation of subsistence farmers at the end of the 1970s into the world's second-largest economy behind the U.S., and the environmental costs of such change are often visible.

Beijing is no longer dominated by bicycles but by cars, and the skyline is barely visible at times because of thick pollution. More people are living in cities, buying air conditioners and other energy-hungry home electronics and consuming more energy for transportation and heating. □

Brazilian team finds new porcupine species

JENNY BARCHFIELD
Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — A new species of tree-dwelling porcupine has been discovered in Brazil's Northeastern Atlantic Forest, one of the world's most threatened habitats, researchers said.

Antonio Rossano Mendes Pontes said his team found the rodent, which is covered in dark brown spines with reddish tips, in a small and isolated patch of forest in the northeastern state of Pernambuco. With just 2 percent of the re-

gion's original forest habitat still standing, the newly discovered porcupine must already be considered endangered, Pontes said. Known by the locals as "coandu-mirim," Pontes and his team have given the porcupine the scientific name "Coendou speratus."

"In Latin, 'speratus' means hope, because we have to hope for its future," said Pontes, a zoology professor at the Federal University of Pernambuco, in a telephone interview.

The team calculates there

are about four of the porcupines per square kilometer in the area known as the Usina Trapiche Forest Remnants Archipelago, where the species was discovered. But Pontes said he doubts whether any more of the porcupines remain outside this small pocket of forest. Even if any do still exist outside the area, Pontes said there's little chance the different groups of porcupines have been cross-breeding, meaning their gene pool is likely already compromised by inbreeding. □

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Jonathan Coulton, Greg Pak pair up for comic book



This comic book cover image released by Pak Man Productions shows "Code Monkey Save the World," by musician Jonathan Coulton and writer Greg Pak.

Associated Press

MATT MOORE
Associated Press

Monkeys, robots and zombies? That's the hat trick that musician Jonathan Coulton and writer Greg Pak are featuring in their original graphic novel, "Code Monkey Save the World."

The escapade centering on the eponymous coding monkey that Coulton wrote and sang about to online acclaim is the first pairing between the two. Pak's other writing credits include "Batman/Superman," "Planet Hulk" and "X-Treme X-Men."

Coulton and Pak went to college together, Pak said, adding that he's listened to Coulton's music for years.

"I've always loved his songs — he's like Bill Withers and Willie Nelson and Warren Zevon in that every song he writes tells a great little story, with these strange, compelling, sad, funny characters," Pak said.

"But just a few months ago it suddenly occurred to me that Jonathan's written a ton of songs starring these dangerous but sensitive super-villains and monsters — and that if you put them together, you could have a heck of a super-villain team up comic. And I got on Twitter and said as much. And he tweeted back, 'DO IT.'"

Artist Takeshi Miyazawa, who drew Marvel's "Runaways," is illustrating the books with Jessica Kholinne coloring the pencils and inks and Simon Bowland lettering the titles.

To fund the work and to publish it independently, Coulton and Pak turned to the fundraising site Kickstarter on Monday to help pay for the 60-page, four-part graphic novel that will be released digitally through Monkeybrain Comics and Comixology, followed by a paperback edition.

Many comics creators are

turning to online sites for funding to promote their own work and to retain control of their creations. But it's also a way to experiment with titles that many not otherwise get off the ground.

"I'm planning a few different creator-owned projects right now that follow different models. But for certain kinds of projects, self-publishing makes perfect sense," Pak said. "Given the size and enthusiasm of Jonathan's fan base and the fact that Kickstarter lets us put books directly into backers' hands, this felt like the absolute right way to get 'Code Monkey Save World' out into the world."

Coulton and Pak also partnered with Monkeybrain Comics and Comixology to publish the individual chapters digitally ahead of the paperback edition, too.

"That also made perfect sense to us given how great the Comixology platform is for reading comics and how amazing the Monkeybrain people are for distributing genuinely independent comics. Also, Monkeybrain has 'monkey' in their name," Pak said. "Destiny called." □

Faith Hill says she won't do 'SNF' theme



This April 7, 2013 file photo shows singer Faith Hill at the 48th Annual Academy of Country Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) — Faith Hill is out of the football game.

The country star announced Monday morning on Twitter that she won't be doing the "Sunday Night Football" theme song this year. She's been featured at the top of the broadcast for six years now.

Hill says in her tweet it's been an honor to appear

on the NBC show, but that it's time to "let someone else rock the open. Difficult decision. Kinda emotional." "Sunday Night Football" executive producer Fred Gaudelli tweeted "great love and appreciation" to Hill for her participation over the years. He made no mention of what the show plans to do with the opening. □

Rihanna cancels Houston show because of illness



NEW YORK (AP) — Rihanna has canceled another date on her latest tour because she is ill.

Live Nation says the Grammy-winning singer is unable to perform at Monday's concert in Houston "as a result of illness." The concert promoter says fans should retain their tickets to use at a rescheduled show.

Rihanna canceled shows

in Baltimore and Boston on her "Diamonds World Tour" last month because she was sick.

The next date on the singer's tour is Tuesday in Dallas. She's supporting her seventh album, "Unapologetic," which features the hits "Diamonds" and "Stay."

Rapper A\$AP Rocky is the opening act on Rihanna's tour. □

In this photo provided by the Las Vegas News Bureau, Rihanna takes the stage during her "Rihanna Diamonds World Tour" at the Mandalay Bay Events Center on the Las Vegas Strip on Friday, April 12, 2013.

Associated Press

Fiction Pulitzer returns and Adam Johnson wins it

HILLEL ITALIE

AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Adam Johnson's "The Orphan Master's Son," a labyrinthine story of a man's travails in North Korea, has won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, restoring a high literary honor a year after no fiction award was given. Pulitzer judges on Monday praised Johnson's book as "an exquisitely crafted novel that carries the reader on an adventuresome journey into the depths of totalitarian North Korea and into the most intimate spaces of the human heart." It was the third book by the 45-year-old Johnson, who teaches creative writing at Stanford University.

"I wanted to give a picture of what it was like to be an ordinary person in North Korea," said Johnson, who spent a few days there to research his novel. "It's illegal there for citizens to interact with foreigners, so the only way I could really



This undated photo released by Stanford University shows English professor Adam Johnson. Johnson's "The Orphan Master's Son," a labyrinthine story of a man's travails in North Korea, has won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, restoring a high literary honor a year after no fiction award was given.

Associated Press

get to know these people was through my imagination."

Booksellers and publishers had been surprised and angered in 2012 when Pulitzer

officials decided for the first time in decades not to give a fiction prize, which usually results in a quick and sustained boost in sales. There was no clear favor-

ite Monday for fiction, with Louise Erdrich's "The Round House" and a pair of novels about the Iraq war, Ben Fountain's "Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk" and Kevin Powers' "The Yellow Birds," among those receiving strong attention.

Johnson's novel was one of three works with Asian themes to win Pulitzers. Ayad Akhtar's "Disgraced," the story of a successful Pakistani-American lawyer whose dinner party goes out of control, won for drama and Fredrik Logevall's "Embers of War: The Fall of an Empire and the Making of America's Vietnam," for history. Logevall and Johnson also shared the same publisher, Random House; and same editor, David Ebershoff. Logevall said Monday that he worked on his book for 11 years, "missed a deadline or two," but that he was glad he had the time to "make sure everything was just right."

"My editor (Ebershoff) was

very patient with me," Logevall said.

In "Disgraced," a dinner party brings together two couples and several religious and ethnic identities over pork tenderloin and chorizo. When chitchat touches on Islamic and Judaic tradition, the Quran and the Talmud, racial profiling and Sept. 11 and the Taliban and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Benjamin Netanyahu — along with the requisite alcohol intake — chaos is achieved.

"I really wanted to write a play that was going to have a legitimately tragic dimension for a contemporary audience," Akhtar said from London, where he's helping ready a new production of "Disgraced" at the Bush Theatre. "I wanted the play to have immediacy and aliveness of engagement that harkened back to a tragic form but a mass form, something that would have audiences gasping." □

Alicia Keys campaigns for HIV education

STACY A. ANDERSON

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alicia Keys says she wants to spark a global conversation about HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. The Grammy Award-winning singer met with women who are part of an HIV program at United Medical Center in the nation's capital Monday to discuss their experiences with the virus, including the fear and stigma associated with the disease. Keys, who has also traveled to Africa and India to meet with women who have HIV, said she felt connected to the women there and here because "they looked like they could be my sister, or they could be my aunt, or they could be my cousin." And now, she said, she wants to "bridge" the gap between domestic and international conversations about the virus.

Keys is working with the Kaiser Family Foundation for "Empowered," a campaign launched last month

to educate women about HIV and provide grants to community-based projects that will do that.

According to Kaiser, one in four of the 1.1 million people living with HIV in the United States are women. Women of color account for about two-thirds of new HIV infections among women.

"Black women are disproportionately affected, making up for the majority of all new infections," Keys said. "That's a must-have conversation."

The campaign includes outreach through public service ads, social media and community programs. It encourages women to learn about HIV and AIDS, talk with family and friends, protect themselves and loved ones, get tested, prevent spreading the disease and stay on treatment.

Keys is also leading the Empowered Community Grants program with Kaiser and AIDS United that will

give up to \$25,000 grants to community-level projects that focus on women and HIV.

"To identify those community-based organizations is a very important part of the puzzle," Keys said.

Valerie Jarrett, a White House senior advisor who has worked with Keys in the past on women and health issues, said she supports "Empowered" because it is part of President Barack Obama's vision for comprehensive health.

"You really have to have a holistic and comprehensive approach to this and what's so special about what Alicia is doing now is that it will highlight how every single person can play a role in this," Jarrett said.

The campaign is scheduled to run for five years and publish a report annually on women's experiences with HIV and AIDS and examine cultural changes regarding education, misconceptions and the stigma associated with the disease. □



Grammy Award-winning singer Alicia Keys visits an HIV women's support group at United Medical Center in Washington, Monday, April 15, 2013.

Associated Press

Love, love them. Do.



Frank Bruni
© 2013 New York Times News Service

He was a darling of the cable news shows, which indulged his appetite for attention so frequently that he carried his own makeup kit, to be ready and pretty at a moment's notice. But the lights and the cameras weren't enough.

At campaign rallies and other events, he bathed in applause and requests: for autographs, photos, handshakes, hugs. These weren't enough either. He'd be stopped in the airport, complimented by a complete stranger. Still not enough. So when he was all alone, with no television anchor to make him feel important, no acolyte to make him feel adored, he trawled cyberspace for fans. For a fix. Maybe someone somewhere was saying something sweet about him. Maybe he could bump up against just a little more love.

Last week, at long last, Anthony Weiner provided a detailed accounting of how he ended up involved, over Twitter and Facebook and email and phone, with a half-dozen women he didn't really know, and of what preceded and prompted the crotch shot seen round the world.

"By definition, when you are a politician, you want people to like you," he told Jonathan Van Meter in a story in The New York Times' Sunday magazine. Thanks to the Internet and social media, Weiner said, "Not only could I go to a town-hall meeting or a senior center or in front of the TV camera, but now I could sit and hear what people were saying all around. Search your name on Google, begat read comments on your Facebook page, begat looking at what people are saying about you on Twitter, to then trying to engage them."

That's a lot of begetting, and soon he was misbegotten.

Weiner's testimonial yields the most bracing portrait of love gluttony in politics since, well, the release a few weeks ago of "Fall to Grace," a documentary about Jim McGreevey, the former New Jersey governor, by Alexandra Pelosi.

Here, from the movie, is McGreevey on what drove him toward the governorship: "It was the need to be acclaimed, the need to be adored."

"My addiction is to being central in the world, to being accepted and adored in the way

that celebrities are adored – by strangers, in abundance," he adds, reading aloud from his 2006 memoir, "The Confession." "That's what I loved about campaigning."

Note that while the statement about campaigning is in the past tense, the one about addiction is in the present. In "Fall to Grace," McGreevey claims to have looked hard at his failings and grown, but the movie raises the question of whether he has found grace and peace or just a different drug. To reflect on how hungry for notice and approval he once was, he allows Pelosi to trail him for hours on end, and revels in his soliloquies on the redemption of Jim McGreevey. Love, love him. Do.

"People with this need are often drawn to politics, just as they are to religious ministry or to Hollywood," McGreevey says in the movie. He's now in religious ministry.

And while he frames his cooperation with Pelosi in terms of his hope to spotlight the struggles and dignity of the female prisoners he counsels, his agenda doesn't seem quite that neat, clean and selfless.

What a powerful magnet for affirmation junkies the political arena is, especially in the age of cable television, social media and the permanent campaign, which enables the needy, and maybe favors them as well. They suffer its mortifications most willingly, if they suffer at all. It's not difficult to drop to bended knee when you're a serial romancer and you live to hear people accept your proposals and tell you you're the one.

That yearning is palpable in Mark Sanford, who is now groveling for a second chance and a ticket to Congress. It defined John Edwards. And in their cases, as in Weiner's, it expressed itself not just in public ambitions but in private transgressions. What led them to run and what led them to stray were to some extent the same hunger. The same hormone.

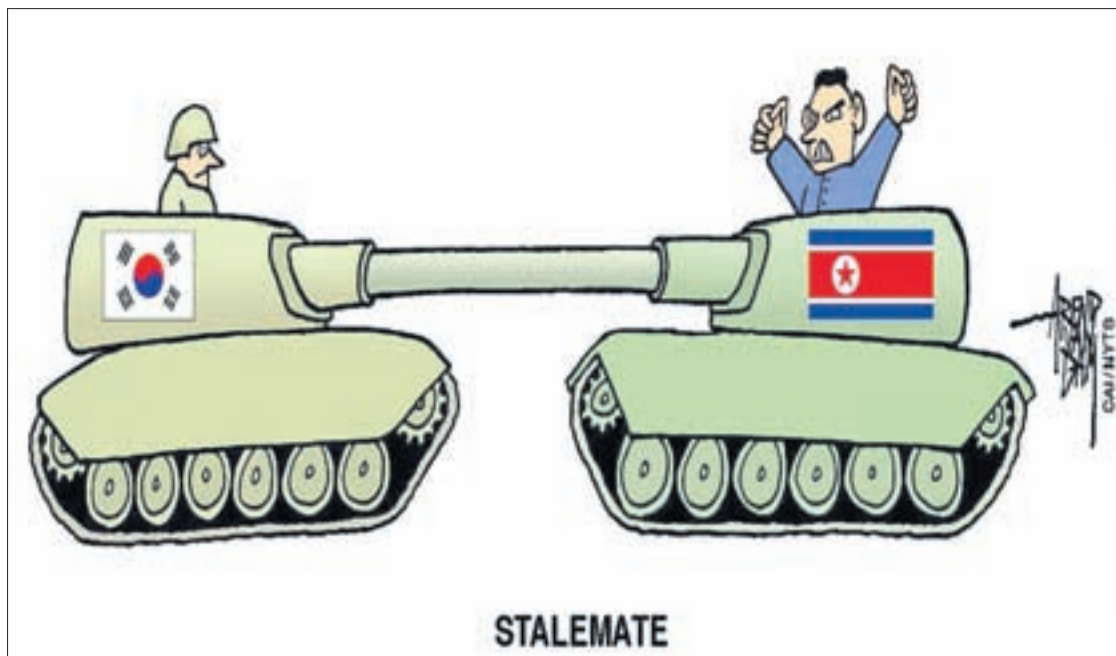
That's true, too, of Bill Clinton, who made a startling comment in an interview with Stephen Colbert last week. Colbert asked the two-term former president, a globe-trotting megacelebrity with stratospheric approval ratings, why he doesn't tweet. Clinton's answer?

That he's "sort of insecure." That he might not get any response. If a tweet falls in cyberspace and no one acknowledges it, did it really make the rounds?

"There's nothing worse than a friendless tweeter, right?" Clinton said to Colbert.

He's the lord of the love gluttons, as his nearly 50-minute convention speech last year reminded us. But that's actually been his great strength as much as his vulnerability. The gluttony cuts both ways.

What is politics, after all, but the fine art and vulgar craft of winning over voters and fellow lawmakers? □



Congress is socially insecure



Gail Collins
© 2013 New York Times News Service

When it comes to congressmen behaving badly – and such a list it is, my friends – the prize this week goes to Rep. Greg Walden of Oregon. Although I am sorry to say that his bad behavior does not involve any interesting new illicit sex issues.

It's surprising that we never noticed him before. After all, Walden has a long legislative background, including being a founder of the House Small Brewers Caucus, as well as the first member of the House to contract swine flu in 2009. But our mission today involves his role as the chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee – the member in charge of getting other Republican members elected next year.

When President Barack Obama released his budget, Walden put on his NRCC hat and homed in on the much-publicized proposal to reduce the way cost-of-living raises are computed for Social Security. It was, the congressman claimed on CNN, "a shocking attack on seniors."

"I think he's going to have a lot of pushback from some of the major senior organizations on this and Republicans, as well," Walden said.

Consider the poor American public. They were already being flung into a debate that involves long discussions about the impact of "chained CPI." Now they have to figure out

what to make of the leader of the Republican re-election effort attacking their president for doing something the Republicans have been demanding for years.

And it was awful for the Democrats, who generally spend their political lives defending Social Security from any changes whatsoever. Most of them rolled their eyes, muttered soft, low moans and tried to change the subject. One, Rep. Steve Cohen of Tennessee, successfully diverted all attention from entitlement issues by tweeting Cyndi Lauper "couldn't believe how hot u were" after a show at the White House.

We will take this matter up again when we revisit the importance of having elected officials restrict their social media visits to moments when they are under the strict supervision of staff members.

But then the Republican House leaders started to come down on Obama's side. Asked about Walden, Speaker John Boehner said: "I've made it clear that I disagree." And the House Budget Committee chairman, Paul Ryan, announced that Obama's concessions left him "cautiously optimistic" that there could be a bipartisan budget deal.

What's going on here? People, are you hopeful that the great partisan stalemate is actually wobbling? Or does Ryan's cautious optimism make you wildly pessimistic? Do you think the Republican leaders are really hoping to put an end to the march of the fiscal cliffs? Or are they just worried because people have started to compare the House of Representatives to North Korea? Historically, when it's in a period of implacable nonproductivity, the House has always been compared to a kindergarten class. Pyongyang does have a similar tendency to call everybody out to dance around in colorful costumes for special occasions. But it's not what you could call a

step forward.

To be fair, Washington has already come a long way budgetwise, compared with say, last year or the year Alexander Hamilton had to deal with the Whiskey Rebellion. The House and Senate have passed their own versions, which are largely detail-free Big Thoughts. (Ryan's plan expresses concern about the future stability of Social Security and decrees that "both parties must work together to chart a path forward on common-sense reforms.") The president's budget, however, is required to be detail-dense, and Obama proposed new spending for infrastructure repair, research and schools along with specific tax increases and spending cuts.

All the attention, so far, has gone to the Social Security change. Obama has been offering this deal to Republican leaders for ages, yet there seemed to be a tacit agreement on the part of everyone to ignore it. When the president began having dinners with the Republican senators last month, they walked out expressing amazement that he was open to such a thing. This continued in some circles long beyond the point at which the plan was up on the White House website.

So what do you think? There are some arguments on every side, except of course the one on which Walden is swinging.

But if you take it in concert with the rest of the budget, Obama's proposal does speak, in a very modest way, to the fact that this country spends a ton of its resources on the elderly and relatively little on the young. I'd trade a dramatic new commitment to funding quality early childhood education for a change in the way cost-of-living increases are computed for Social Security, as long as the oldest and neediest of the recipients are protected.

However, anything that makes Paul Ryan this enthusiastic is scary. □

U.S. gun debate revives questions about self-defense

ADAM GELLER
AP National Writer

The beam from the intruder's flashlight pierced the blackness of the bedroom, sweeping into Eric Martin's eyes. As Martin rolled to the floor, reached into the nightstand drawer and drew out his 9 mm pistol, the 46-year-old executive's mind raced: Would this man harm Martin's fiancée or her son? Was an accomplice outside waiting? What if he pulled the trigger and hit the sleeping 8-year-old across the hall? In the weeks since the Connecticut school massacre, some of the most intense debate has swirled around how to keep guns from criminals without infringing on the ability of lawful gun owners, like Martin, to protect themselves and their families.

Self-defense is now the top reason gun owners cite for having a firearm, a new survey shows, a figure that has nearly doubled since 1999.

But even after years of study, there is little clarity on how, exactly, Americans use guns to protect themselves — or how of-



In this Saturday, April 6, 2013 photo, Eric Martin poses for a photo with his fiancée, Rachel Cieslewicz, at their home in St. George, Utah. In late March 2013, Martin chased down an intruder to their home and held him at gunpoint with the 9-mm Smith & Wesson handgun that he keeps in his bedside night stand, until the police arrived.

Associated Press

leeway to wield them. Both advocates of gun rights and of gun control understand the issue's importance in shaping the debate.

"When there's a threat outside your door, the police aren't going to be there ... the guys trained to save lives aren't going to be there," said Dom Raso, a commentator for the National Rifle Association's



In this Saturday, April 6, 2013 photo, Eric Martin poses for a photo with his fiancée, Rachel Cieslewicz, at their home in St. George, Utah.

Associated Press



In this Saturday, April 6, 2013 photo, Eric Martin explains, in St. George, Utah, how he chased down an intruder at his home recently and held him at gunpoint with a 9-mm Smith & Wesson handgun which he keeps in his bedside night stand while his fiancée Rachel Cieslewicz, background, called the police

Associated Press

ten. Researchers known for sharp disagreement on the self-defense riddle say the answers may be shifting dramatically because of a steep drop in crime, an increase in guns and state laws giving owners more

online news channel, in a video posted recently by the gun rights group. And even while calling for new gun laws, President Barack Obama, too, acknowledged the legitimacy of self-defense in an

polling unit.

With Americans split over whether guns more often save lives or jeopardize them, researchers have long parsed surveys of crime victims done in the 1990s, arguing over what the numbers mean.

But since then, crime has plummeted in the U.S. The rate of violent crimes including murder and assault fell by nearly half from 1992 to 2011, while the rate of reported property crime dropped 41 percent, data compiled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation show.

That drop has researchers considering the possibility that many fewer Americans are drawing firearms to protect themselves.

"I'm pretty confident that whatever the number is, it did go down ... because overall crime went down," said Gary Kleck, a Florida State University criminologist whose 1990s research, widely cited by gun rights activists, concluded that Americans drew their firearms in self-defense up to 2.5 million times a year. That translates to about 3 percent of all gun owners during the course of a single year.

But the drop in crime means there are far fewer occasions now for Americans to use guns for self-protection, Kleck said, making it likely that the number of annual self-defense usages of guns "should be about half as big now as they were back then, 20 years ago."

Kleck's most outspoken critic has long been David Hemenway, director of the Harvard University Injury Control Research Center. He contends Kleck's survey vastly overinflates the number of times people use guns to defend themselves — for example, by estimating thousands during the course of break-ins, though many of those homeowners either didn't own guns or remained asleep. Kleck, in turn, says Hemenway and others depend on surveys that significantly undercount self-defense gun use. □

April 8 speech when he recounted a conversation with his wife, Michelle, after campaigning in rural Iowa. "Sometimes it would be miles between farms, let alone towns," Obama said. "And she said, 'You know, coming back, I can understand why somebody would want a gun for protection. If somebody drove up into the driveway and, Barack, you weren't home, the sheriff lived miles away, I might want that security.'"

Since the 1990s, 18 states have passed stand-your-ground laws. At the same time, many more states eased the ability of gun owners to legally carry concealed weapons. The

number of guns Americans own has also jumped to about 300 million, although researchers say the percentage of households with guns has declined. Today, more gun owners than ever — 48 percent, according to a March poll by the Pew Research Center — cite self-protection as their primary reason for having a firearm. That has nearly doubled since 1999, and now far surpasses the declining number of gun owners who say they own a firearm primarily for hunting.

The figure confirms personal security as a major concern for most Americans, said Michael Dimock, director of Pew's political